

The Middlebury Campus

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Panel discusses racial diversity

By Emilie Munson

On Tuesday, Nov. 27 at 7 p.m., the Student Government Association (SGA) sponsored an Affirmative Action panel in the McCullough Social Space. The panel, which consisted of Dean of the College Shirley Collado, Dean of Admissions Greg Buckles, Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science Murray Dry and students Kim Banford '15 and Andrew Snow '15, met to discuss the implications of affirmative action in collegiate institutions, particularly at the College, in the light of the *Fisher v. University of Texas* case currently before the Supreme Court.

The College supports affirmative action as a way to create a more diverse student body. In cooperation with 36 other colleges and universities, the College produced the *amici curiae* briefs, which were presented to the Supreme Court in favor of affirmative action.

"Highly selective institutions cannot obtain the diversity they seek except by seeking it directly," argued the brief.

Yet, as Collado explained at the panel, the current language and processes of affirmative action are unsophisticated, and oftentimes this language lends itself to promoting "cosmetic diversity," or simply creating a critical mass of students who may be considered "diverse".

Dry and Buckles offered two future alternatives to affirmative action during the panel. Dry, an opponent of affirmative action,

suggested that affirmative action does not have a place in college admissions and instead the focus ought to be on the educational disparity among different races. Buckles proposed that colleges could use socioeconomic class as a factor in the admissions decision, in place of race, as part of the attempt to obtain a diverse student body.

Buckles went on to explain that the College has no caps or quotas in regards to race, and instead uses a holistic admissions approach that considers race as one factor among many when considering applicants.

The College has undertaken efforts to not only increase diversity among its student body, but also among its applicant pool. In order to foster a heterogeneous body of applicants from which to select accepted students, the College created the Discover Middlebury program, which flies high school students to Middlebury for an overnight visit in an attempt to make the campus accessible to a greater number of people. In addition, the College also works with the Posse Foundation to add diversity to campus.

Banford suggested that the Posse Foundation is one of the main reasons the College has a diverse student body.

"If you took away all of the Posse scholars, Middlebury would look drastically different," said Banford.

Despite the holistic attempts at

SEE STUDENTS, PAGE 2

FINALS WEEK: LET'S DO THE NUMBERS

In the week before finals, stress peaks as students work to finish final projects, prepare for exams and complete lab reports. In order to try to mitigate tension during this period, the Student Government Association (SGA) and Parton Health Center have implemented a series of events. Once again this year, the SGA will sponsor two mid-night breakfast events — one in Ross Dining Hall on Dec. 10 and one in Proctor Dining Hall on Dec. 11 — as well as pay for extra staff to allow the Davis Family Library to remain open around the clock during the week prior to exams. The Parton Health Center will also sponsor two types of events this year. Throughout exam week, Parton will host 20-minute guided meditation sessions four times daily in the Mitchell Greene Lounge (at 9 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.), which are open to all community members. For animal lovers, Parton has also decided to host a pet therapy session on Dec. 12 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in Coltrane Lounge, which will be provided by Therapy Dogs of Vermont. •

MIDNIGHT BREAKFAST

\$9,500-\$10,000/semester, paid for by the SGA since '08/09

BLUEBERRIES

140lbs

9,000 EGGS

enough to fill two bathroom stalls

2,700 PORK SAUSAGE PATTIES

2,700 BACON STRIPS

1,000 WAFFLES

2,640 PANCAKES

end-to-end, they would stretch from Proctor to Bi-Hall

stacked, they would be almost twice as high as Bi-Hall

7gallons REAL MAPLE SYRUP \$42/gallon

LIBRARY 24/7

\$2,398 SECURITY

external guards for the night shift

\$1,566 WORKERS

120 hours of student overnight shifts

\$200 SNACKS

MEDITATION SESSIONS

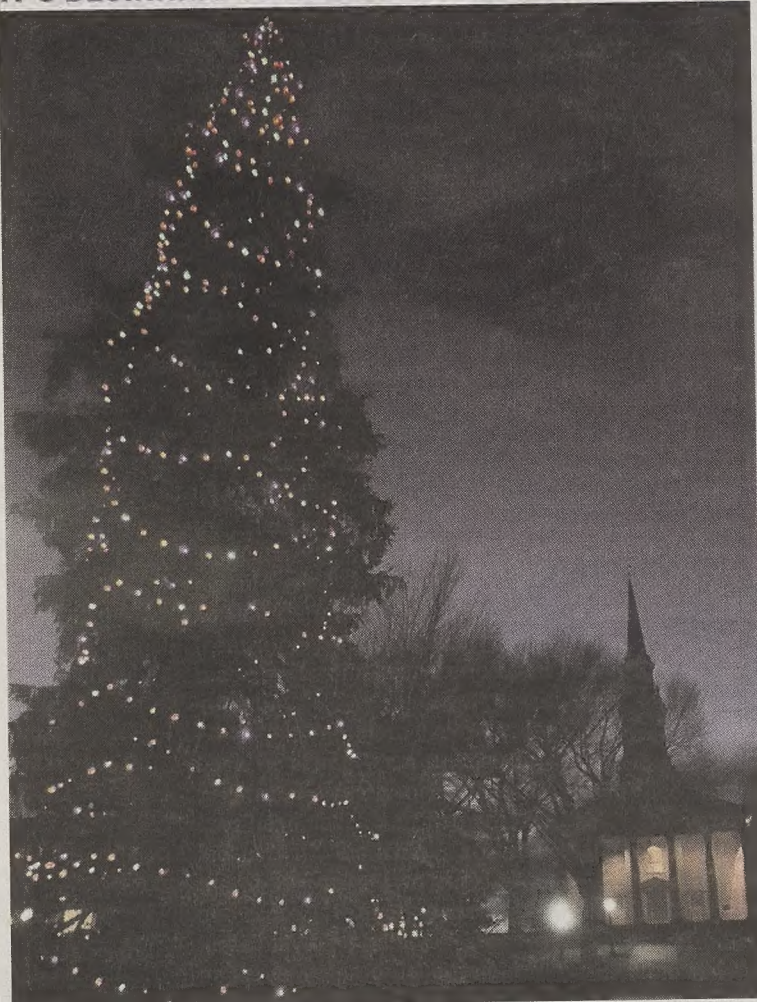
POSTERS \$35

COST TO ATTEND \$0

Mitchell Green Lounge (at the top of McCullough) will be open Dec. 10-15 from 6 a.m. until 11 p.m. Guided sessions at 9, 12:30, 4:30 and 8:00

BY IAN STEWART. SOURCES: MATTHEW BIETTE, MICHAEL ROY, PARTON HEALTH CENTER

IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS



JIAN YI ZHU

In the last weeks before students leave campus for winter break, the College lit its towering Christmas tree and placed candles in all of the windows in Old Chapel, just in time for the snow to fall.

Smithsonian awards professor

By Peter Murray

Last Wednesday, Anne Knowles, professor of geography, received the Award for American Ingenuity from the Smithsonian. Currently the chair of the geography department at the College, Knowles teaches courses in historical geography, cultural geography and the history of cartography.

Knowles and eight others received the Ingenuity Awards for innovations in the fields of climate science, social change and music, among others. This is the inaugural year of the award.

"I had never felt truly humbled until I met the other award-ees that evening," said Knowles, of receiving the award for her work in historical Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

"GIS is a technology that allows you to map anything with location," explains Knowles in the video clip on the Smithsonian website.

Knowles has used GIS to vi-

sualize the Battle of Gettysburg, the Holocaust and the development of the iron industry in the United States. GIS software allows a historian to affix information from the past — troop movements, census data, environmental data, etc. — to specific locations on a map. This process allows historical geographers to "reveal patterns and relationships that would otherwise be invisible," according to Knowles.

Despite her work in a wide range of topics, the Smithsonian chose to focus on Knowles' visualization of the Battle of Gettysburg.

"I imagine that is what's most relevant to an American audience," said Knowles.

Knowles' work with the Battle of Gettysburg revealed that General Robert E. Lee could see far more of the battle than historians had previously thought he had witnessed. By combining sketches of the battle, informa-

tion about troop placement and topographic data, Knowles shed new light on General Lee's decision to order Pickett's Charge.

In her remarks at the ceremony, Knowles explained that sometimes her work had felt like swimming upstream, as many colleges and universities have closed their geography programs in recent years.

However, Knowles has continued to make notable headway in the field of historical geography. In recent years, she has edited two books on the use of GIS for studying history, and has an upcoming book on the development of the American iron industry.

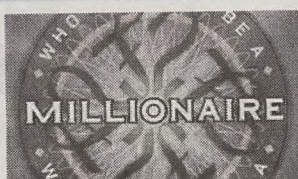
Indeed, pursuing her passion for a truly grounded and spatial sense of history was not always easy. Knowles searched for years for a faculty position before Bob Churchill, former chair of the Geography department, offered

SEE KNOWLES, PAGE 3

INSIDE



THREE ARRESTED IN ADDISON COUNTY FOR METH LAB. PAGE 5



MIDD STUDENT COMPETES ON "WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE?" PAGE 12



REVIEW SAYS VANEK TRILOGY IS A HIT. PAGE 16

BEYOND THE BUBBLE

BY DANNY ZHANG

Almost a year after Great Leader Kim Jong-Il's death, North Korea is getting ready for a second attempt to launch a satellite via a long-range rocket. Government spokesmen revealed last Saturday, Dec. 1, that the Korean Committee for Space Technology is preparing for a launch date between Dec. 10 and Dec. 22.

Experts on North Korea say that this launch is meant to bolster the legitimacy of Kim Jong-Un, who is still working to consolidate power after taking over leadership positions from his father after his death on Dec. 17 of last year.

In April of this year, a similar rocket launch was attempted, though the rocket failed soon after leaving the launch pad and disintegrated. North Korean scientists claim that they have learned from the mistakes of that launch and are prepared to "conduct the launching ... [transparently]."

Already, the international community is condemning the North Korean announcement. U.N. Security Council resolutions 1718 and 1874 explicitly prohibit ballistic missile testing by North Korea. Though the North Koreans insist that their rockets are meant to send satellites into orbit, other nations believe it is only a cover story for missile testing.

The U.S. State Department issued a statement calling the launch "a highly provocative act that threatens peace and security in the region." Even China, widely seen as North Korea's big brother in the region, has joined the international community in recent years to renounce such acts of North Korean defiance.

South Korea, which is especially concerned about the North's announcement, aborted its own satellite launch attempt on Nov. 29 due to a last minute signal problem. Two previous South Korean launch attempts also failed in 2009 and 2010. The North Koreans blame the international community of holding a double standard by allowing the South to freely develop space rocket programs while punishing the North through sanctions.

To date, only the United States, Russia, China, Japan, France, India, Israel and Iran have successfully launched a rocket from within their own borders.

The timing of the slated North Korean launch also conveniently coincides with several major political events in the Asia-Pacific. China ushered in a new generation of leaders last month, led by new Community Party General Secretary Xi Jinping, whose views on foreign policy are little known to the international community. In addition to South Korea's satellite launch attempt, the South Koreans are gearing up for a presidential election on Dec. 19.

Incumbent President Lee Myung-Bak is barred from running due to a constitutional one-term limit. His conservative Saenuri Party has nominated Park Geun-Hye, daughter of former President Park Chung-Hee, leader of the authoritarian regime during the 60's and 70's credited with rapid economic growth. The Democratic United Party, which favors more diplomatic engagement with North Korea, has nominated Moon Jae-In, former Chief-of-Staff to President Roh Mu-Hyun. In fear of splitting the anti-Saenuri vote, a strong third-party candidate named Ahn Cheol-Soo withdrew his candidacy in November and endorsed Moon.

It is unclear what consequences North Korea's launch will have on the South's election. In current opinion polls, Park holds a slight lead of about 3.5 percent. The fast-paced campaign will see three presidential debates within the next two weeks. The winner will take office in February of next year.

In neighboring Japan, parliamentary elections are slated for Dec. 16 after Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda dissolved parliament last month. Noda's party is on track for defeat, with approval ratings dipping below 20 percent.

Panels discuss money and race

By Isabelle Dietz

On Wednesday, Nov. 28, students gathered in the McCullough Social Space to attend a discussion on socioeconomic diversity, race and higher education, led by Senior Fellow at the Century Foundation Richard Kahlenberg. The event was organized by Money at Midd, a group of students that works to address and discuss the role that money plays at the College.

Five students opened the lecture by stating the cost of their college education to them and their families. Kahlenberg applauded the students for the creative opening, noting that he was pleased to see students discussing their socioeconomic status in such a frank manner.

Kahlenberg provided information about present levels of socioeconomic diversity at selective colleges, before then suggesting reasons why he believed it was important for colleges nationwide to address these imbalances. Kahlenberg also addressed what he believes to be the root of socioeconomic disparity, and provided his analysis on the future of diversity on campus given recent legal and political attacks on racial affirmative action programs.

"Higher education is really the only way to assure upper or middle class status for adults," said Kahlenberg. "Likewise, as more students go to college, it becomes important where you go to college."

Kahlenberg stated that he believed that it was crucial for elite colleges to have socioeconomic diversity, recognizing that many of the students who study at the College and its peer institutions will go on to hold positions of leadership.

"We want at least some leaders to have personally known what it's like to be on food stamps," said Kahlenberg.

The speaker also explained that socioeconomic diversity helps promote racial diversity.

"Whites on average have about 20 times

more wealth than African Americans," he said.

A question and answer session followed the lecture.

One audience member asked the speaker how to create allies in upper-class white people on socioeconomic issues.

"Point out that diversity is good for their own upper class children," replied Kahlenberg. "Demonstrate the ways that socioeconomic diversity can enhance their education."

Overall, audience members seemed pleased with the lecture and the discussion it generated.

"I feel like class inequalities at Midd are pretty startling and every time someone throws out a number at me, I always wish it were different," said Anna Shireman-Grabowski, '14.5, who asked a question at the lecture about whether preferential treatment was given to students whose families had donor potential. "It's something we in the community need to look at and address, and it plays out in our future of life at Middlebury. It's nice to see events like this."

On Thursday, Nov. 29, Money at Midd also hosted a panel on accessibility, race, class and affirmative action at Middlebury.

Panelists for the event included Peggy Nelson, professor of sociology, Tiffany Sargent, director of civic engagement, Jackie Davies, student services director, Gregg Buckles, dean of admissions and Charlie Arnowitz '13, Student Government Association (SGA) president.

All agreed that having such discussions on campus about socioeconomic diversity are extremely important, especially coming from the students themselves.

"The people who have the strongest voice and have the most power to affect change is the students," Sargent said. "The administration is trying to figure out these issues; but if their actions don't match your goals, then by all means vocalize them," she said, addressing students directly.

Yet several panelists acknowledged that many find it challenging to have discussions about socioeconomic diversity and class.

"Money is the most awkward topic, no matter where you are," said Arnowitz. "People will talk about politics and religion at cocktail parties and it's still less awkward than talking about money."

When the panel was finished, Sam Koplinka-Loehr '13, one of the Money at Midd organizers, asked audience members to turn to those beside them to speak about the issues that had been discussed.

Koplinka-Loehr posed two questions to audience members.

"What is the biggest barrier that you face in engaging on issues of money and socioeconomic class in your life, and how do guilt and anger enter into these conversations?" he asked the audience.

Koplinka-Loehr then invited groups to discuss a time at Middlebury in which they felt completely alone in some part of their identity, their socioeconomic background and a time in which they had witnessed classism.

Both events were organized by Money at Midd members Sam Koplinka-Loehr, Carter Kelly '15, Sarah Bates '14 and Jay Saper '13.

"Our work primarily stems from working to break through the pervading silence that many feel on Middlebury's campus surrounding issues of class and money... Talking honestly about these issues can be very difficult as money and class relate to almost every aspect of our lives," said Koplinka-Loehr.

"Despite their importance, Middlebury students and staff rarely talk about these issues," continued Koplinka-Loehr. "How often have you talked with the cleaning staff in your building about socioeconomic class on campus? What about your roommate? Your best friend? Administrators? How is it that we so rarely engage these conversations?"

"Money at Midd works to create space for these critical conversations to happen."

Students challenge campus stereotypes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

achieving diversity, many in attendance at the panel agreed that a stereotype of a typical student continues to exist on campus.

"My idea of the Midd Kid is that they are basically good-looking and they are very studious," said Dry. "And it doesn't matter if they are students of color or not."

Still, as Alan Sutton '14 pointed out, that stereotype, while not related to race, is nonetheless formed through superficial observation.

"Good-looking, that's a concept that still [uses] visual language," said Sutton.

In dialogue between audience members and panelists, students and faculty audience members agreed that the stereotypical qualities of embodied by a so-called "typical" student must be re-imagined before true diversity can be achieved among the student body.

Professor of Dance Christal Brown, the only African American female faculty member at the College, explained at the panel that the concept of diversity is closely

linked with the goals of a liberal arts education.

"[A liberal arts education] is about unearthing all types of stereotypes," Brown reminded the audience.

Anthony Perez '14 felt, however, that the College falls short of its attempts to diversify the student body.

"Middlebury could do a little bit more to break down that stereotype that only one type of student comes here," said Perez.

Numbers suggest that more than one type of student do come to the College. Buckles said that of the current first-year class, students who self-identified as students of color on their applications make up 20 percent of the student body. Additionally, international students comprise about 11 percent of first-years, a number which is far greater than that at many of the College's peer institutions.

The audience and panelists agreed, however, that the College must make a conscious effort to create an atmosphere within the student body which truly embraces

diversity.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Education Studies Tara Affolter expressed her opinion that such an atmosphere does not currently exist.

"There is not necessarily the climate for all students to thrive," said Affolter, who is holding a talk on Thursday, Dec. 11 at 4:30 p.m. titled "Tell them you saw me: Invisibility, Race and Racism in Liberal Arts Classrooms."

Collado similarly iterated that the College needs to provide students from all backgrounds with thoughtful reasons to be here.

"My wish is that there is not a single student who feels like they are a visitor," said Collado.

Collado urged students to continue discussing affirmative action in order to improve the campus climate regarding diversity.

"I hope we can keep this conversation going," she implored, "because it really does matter."

STUDENTS SHOWCASE INDEPENDENT WORK AT CROSSROADS

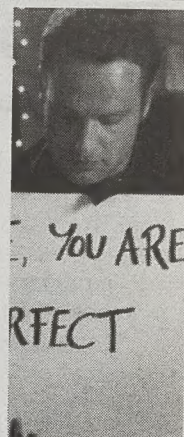


Student tenants of the Old Stone Mill (OSM) showcased their projects in Crossroads Café on Friday, Nov. 30. The OSM provides space for independent student work.

MCAB'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Free Friday Film ▶
Love Actually
FRIDAY AT 7 & 10 P.M.

Zumba
Come dance your stress away before finals week at McCullough Social Space.
SUNDAY AT 4 P.M.



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

BY CHARLIE ARNOWITZ

Congratulations on finishing another semester at Midd! The end of the year is a time for reflection. I am proud of the hard work that all the members of the Student Government Association have done this year — their hard work gives me confidence that none of them will get coal in their stockings and/or menorahs and/or secular candelabras this year.

The Senate and Cabinet have been hard at work, tackling numerous initiatives to improve student life at the College. We've addressed a wide range of issues: everything from the endowment to our laundry system, from access to athletic trainers to student input in academic departments, from sexual assault resources on campus to affirmative action. We've also worked hard to keep the SGA running smoothly, which has included allocating funds to and approving the formation of student organizations, delivering newspapers and running break buses, creating a new SGA website, working with numerous groups and committees to create real campus change and improving communication with the student body to make SGA work better for all of us.

We've got more planned for the rest of the year and we're on track to get it done. We're working on implementing student advisory committees for each academic department, reforming the cultural distribution requirements, getting more printers on campus, and getting SGA's finances in order to create a more sustainable future.

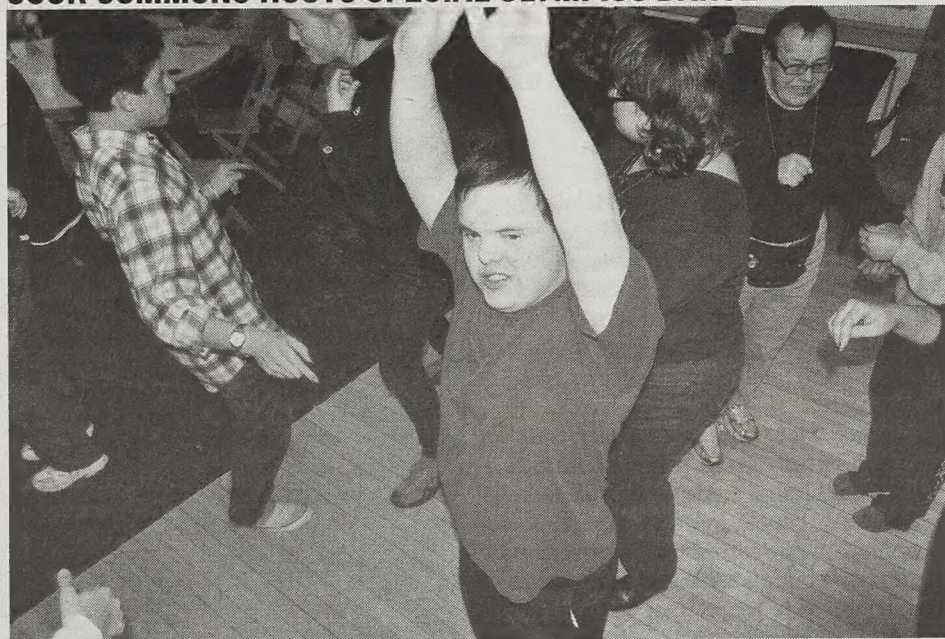
We are proud of all the work we've done so far, but we want to accomplish more. As we all settle in to drink eggnog with awkward uncles and watch showings of *It's a Wonderful Life*, the SGA is looking to think bigger and broader. But we need your help.

During winter term, we will be issuing SGA's first all-student survey in an effort to better understand the wants and needs of students across campus. This is a comprehensive effort to address a wide range of topics, and is designed to give students a voice on issues that range from residential life, dining, endowment policy, access to healthcare, diversity and everything in between. This will serve both as a tool for the SGA in finding further initiatives to pursue, and will also be useful for administrators and other college stakeholders in gauging student views on a whole host of issues.

This major undertaking will only be useful to the extent that students take a few minutes to complete it. As I wrote in my last column, it is vitally important that we all engage in institutional policy. In this case, clicking a couple of buttons is an easy way to do so. So, take the survey! We will have many cool prizes for you to win, of course, but most importantly, it's your civic duty.

Best of luck with finals! Happy holidays, and wishing you a happy and healthy

COOK COMMONS HOSTS SPECIAL OLYMPICS DANCE



JESSICA MUNYON

Cook Commons hosted a Special Olympics Dance on Saturday, Dec. 1 in the Chateau. Addison County Special Olympians and students ate and danced in the Grand Salon.

Student CEO fights hunger with crickets

By Kelsey Collins

The College has been identified as one of 15 Colleges Fighting World Hunger by Best College Online, a website that ranks colleges and universities in various categories. The ranking highlights Bum, or Bug Munch, a company founded by Alex Bea '12 that produces energy bars made from crickets.

Since its founding a year ago, Bea's company has evolved to become Jiminy, an energy bar company that funds cricket farming systems that empower mothers to provide themselves and their children with much-needed iron and protein. The bars themselves are made out of crushed cricket powder, as well as a combination of chocolate, peanut butter and honey.

Bea first got the idea for his company last winter in his MiddCORE class. MiddCORE requires each student participant to pitch "the next big idea" in a competition that is the culmination of the month-long winter term course. While trying to come up with a "big idea," Bea asked his friends for help.

"The most interesting thing I heard back was from my friend Max [Bacharach '13.5]," said Bea. "He told me that grasshoppers are super high in protein. So I went back to my dorm room that night and sat on my bed and thought, 'Why don't we just farm them, if they're high in protein?'"

Since last January, the company has expanded. In addition to Bea, its members now include Bacharach, Sebastian Schell '14.5 and Bjorn Peterson '15.5. Bacharach is in charge of developing the cricket farm, Schell has been working to perfect the recipe and Peterson manages the brand and oversees advertising.

The company continues to attract attention for its efforts to solve global malnutrition and hunger. Last spring the company placed in the Top 40 in the Dell Social Innovation Challenge, a global social entrepreneurship competition with

over 1,700 entries. The team subsequently was awarded a \$3,000 grant by the Middlebury Center for Social Entrepreneurship, one of five grant recipients among 22 applicants.

"Above all, we are looking for things that are scale-able and applicable," said Professor of Economics and Director of Center for Social Entrepreneurship Jon Isham of the criteria used in selecting grant recipients. "The world needs sources of protein, so that's what we all liked. Protein is important, we need inexpensive protein and this is a source that is proven and with a little help can taste pretty good."

While eating bugs may seem unconventional — if not unappetizing — to some Americans, the Jiminy team is doing its best to overcome what the team refers to as a "stigma" against eating insects.

"Crickets make sense," said Bea of his main ingredient. "I'm a math and economics major, it's sort of like a math equation — well, it's a lot more than that — but when you're solving a problem, you have to say, 'What's another way to write this?' You just have to separate yourself from the idea of 'it's a bug.'"

"There are many different ways to look at this problem, and this solution made sense nutritionally and supply-wise," he added.

Marketing a cricket-based energy bar to American consumers has had its challenges, but the team seems confident of their abilities to overcome that setback.

"Marketing this bar is incredibly challenging," acknowledged Peterson, who is in charge of the bar's design, marketing and brand management.

"The trick is getting people to cross this line," he added. "But it's a line that's been crossed before with food products. We eat Jell-O, which is made from horse feet. We eat hot dogs, and who knows what animal or combination of animals is in those. So why not crickets?"

"Protein is important, we need inexpensive protein and this is a source that is proven and with a little help can taste pretty good."

JON ISHAM
DIR. OF CENTER FOR
SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Knowles awarded for work in GIS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

her a position at the College.

Since then, she has collaborated with undergraduates to map the Holocaust (she is teaching a seminar in the spring, "Geographies of the Holocaust") as well as a host of independent projects.

"The nature of the work would have been very different, had I not been hired at Middlebury. The energy of the under-

graduates is astounding," she said.

Yet this enthusiasm seems to work in both directions, as students in Knowles' classes regularly commented on the creativity that their professor elicits.

"Knowles encourages a sort of non-linear thinking," said Molly Rose-Williams '13.5, a student who first took Knowles' "Place and Society" course in her first year at Middlebury, and now studies with the geography professor in her "History

of Cartography" course. "She's always looking for connections, and her passion is infectious," Rose-Williams said.

Through her classes Knowles has provided students with a new way to look at history, through the process of visualization. Such a creative approach has been recognized by the Smithsonian through the presentation of an award that recognizes historical geography as a relevant and innovative way to study the past.

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY RACHEL NUNEZ '14

New Delhi, India

The verb "to love" is expressed in Hindi as "pyar karna" — directly translated, it means "to do love," rather than "to love." In the three months and change that I've spent in India, the distinction between these two expressions has grown increasingly clear to me.

New Delhi is not a place that you could wake up loving one day, just like that. At first glance (and second, third and fourth glance), it is loud, dirty and unfamiliar. Bodily functions, from peeing on down, are sidewalk affairs. Every rickshaw meter in Delhi is mysteriously broken, leaving the drivers free to charge you more than twice the meter rate to take you to your destination — and New Delhi is not a walking city. I have had my heart broken over and over by children begging through the sides of rickshaws, have wandered through unfamiliar neighborhoods aimlessly for hours, unable to understand people's directions, and have been frustrated to tears by the fact that, no matter how well I grow to know the city, I will never be able to blend in here. The learning curve of New Delhi is steep and unending — even now, mere days from the end of my time here, I find myself lost in space or translation, unable to consider myself "good" at Delhi.

It is hard to get past the fact that, no matter the situation, leaving the house means exposing yourself to the inevitable inconveniences of day-to-day life in Delhi. If I hadn't been lucky enough to spend my last month of my semester completing an independent study project in New Delhi, it is a very real possibility that I would have left this city with a casual fondness for it, at best. And that would have been a shame, because at fifth glance (and sixth, seventh and eighth glance), I started to see beyond the rickshaws, poverty and language barriers. New Delhi is a layered, nuanced and complicated city — and with its immense cultural, religious, archeological and political history, it has every right to be.

Freed from the inhibiting time-constraints of daily classes, it only took me a few days to feel ashamed of how much I'd underestimated Delhi. There are beautiful, laughable and enjoyable experiences to be had in New Delhi, but they will not come to you. It was by venturing blindly to an unknown subway stop with my friend, asking every person we encountered where we could find the "kuwa, neeche" or "well, under" (in an attempt at communicating "stepwells"), and putting our faith in an advantageous but kind rickshaw driver that I found my favorite place in Delhi — the Agradas ki Baoli, an immensely old, absurdly under-visited stepwell, just a 10 minute walk from Connaught Place, one of the commercial centers of Delhi.

In my time here, I have grown accustomed to the ceaseless honking of traffic, the cows lounging on the medians of the highways and telling people "I am a student, not a tourist!" I have learned to use a squat toilet like it ain't no thang, and am dreading going back to a country with no rickshaws ... go figure.

I found that, once I started peeling back the layers of the city, each new thing I found to visit, learn about or experience stuck to my heart. I don't love New Delhi — that implies that what I feel for this place is a frozen state, confined solely to myself. I am continuously, actively inflicting the feeling of love on this city, even as it inflicts its own crazy self right back on me.

COLLEGE SHORTS

NEW

NEWS FROM ACROSS

US FROM ACROSS THE NATION

IS THE NATION

University of Virginia student dies during Semester at Sea

Casey Schulman, 22, of the University of Virginia (UVA), died tragically on Saturday, Dec. 1 in a tragic boating accident while studying with the "Semester at Sea" program. Schulman and some friends were snorkeling off of a boat near the island of Dominica in the Caribbean when the driver of the boat backed over Schulman. She sustained fatal injuries and was declared dead at a local hospital.

The *MV Explorer*, the ship Schulman was aboard during her semester at sea, held a memorial service on Sunday, Dec. 2. A close friend, Katie Dorset, spoke about her friend saying she was "the only person I've ever known whose smile could actually light up an entire room."

UVA's Vice President and Chief Student Affairs Officer Patricia Lampkin released a statement from the university saying, "Casey Schulman's death is a cause of much sadness at the University. She was an exceptionally bright light — both in and outside the classroom — and she will long be remembered as a vibrant member of our community."

— The Huffington Post

Hip-hop icon named visiting scholar at Cornell University

Cornell University has invited DJ Africa Bambaataa to serve as a visiting scholar at the prestigious Ivy League institution for a three-year term. Bambaataa, a renowned social activist, electronic music pioneer and influential DJ will join the ranks of prominent hip hop artists who have taken time away from their musical careers to teach at prominent institutions of higher education. This year, New York University asked Questlove to teach a two-credit music course, and Swizz Beatz to serve as the school's producer in residence for the Clive Davis Department of Recorded Music at the Tisch School of the Arts. Though many are pleased to see the inclusion of such prominent hip-hop artists amongst the faculty of many of the United States' top institutions, others have wondered about the accessibility of these classes for those with lower economic status.

— The Huffington Post

Harvard approves student group supporting kinky sex

On Nov. 30, Harvard University approved an on-campus student organization for students with a shared affinity for kinky sex, called Harvard College Munch. The group's mission statement characterizes itself as a "forum for students interested in alternative sexualities to explore their identities and develop a community with their peers." Formal recognition by the university allows the group to receive grants, post campus notices and use campus meeting spaces. The group, which already counts 30 student members, acknowledges that kink is often associated with bondage, dominance and submission, but does not seek to define kinky sexual behavior and "accepts students with any kinky interest," according to the group's constitution. One club member explained that many students feel uncomfortable discussing their sexual practices with some people for fear of being judged, and that the group provides students with the help they need from people who are educated about the kink community.

— The Harvard Crimson

XC runners' video goes viral online

By Katie Theiss

A video titled "I Feel So Close To You" created by Will Gibbons '13 and Melake Getabecha '13 was posted on YouTube on Nov. 4 and has already received over 20,000 views. In this video, Gibbons, dressed as the College's panther mascot, hides in portable toilets at a cross country meet at Williams College and greets unexpected bathroom-goers with hugs.

"I've had a lot of injuries the past couple years and haven't really been able to race, so I started filming some goofy videos last year to keep people loose at meets," said Gibbons. "I was wearing the panther outfit that day at Williams for the shenanigan potential but also to keep warm."

The video has gone viral on the Internet; in addition to its 20,000 plus views on YouTube, it was also featured on Huffington Post and on the blog #whatshouldrunnerscallme.

"Getting some publicity on those sites racked up a lot of hits, but it also brought in a lot of random subscribers and random people commenting," said Gibbons. "I think it first hit home with the running community, then the hugging community and then the mascot community. In that order. Three worlds colliding."

"It's fun for people who know the people in it, or [students] in the NESCAC or [people



COURTESY OF YOUTUBE

Will Gibbons '13 hugged unsuspecting bathroom-goers while dressed as a panther at a cross country meet at Williams College. The video is a youtube sensation.

ple who] like hugging," added Getabecha.

The popularity of the video was unexpected by Gibbons and Getabecha.

"Honestly, I only expected our team, my mom and maybe some creepy internet trolls to watch it," said Gibbons.

Gibbons and Getabecha said that creating a viral video was never their goal or

expectation.

"It should always be about making something that you enjoy in the moment," said Gibbons. "If people like watching it, that's great, but you can't lose sight of your own creative process."

"It's amazing what you can get away with if you're the mascot," he concluded.

SGA UPDATE

SGA passes Feb and Junior Senators bylaw amendment

By Michelle Smoler

An on-going discussion of Feb student over-representation among SGA Senators came to a head at the meeting last Sunday, Dec. 2, in which the Senate passed a bill limiting Feb students from running and voting for class senate seats in a vote of 8-5-3. SGA President Charlie Arnowitz '13 and others pushed for an amendment to the Feb bylaws viewing it as systematically unfair to allow Febs to run for both the class seats and Feb seats, while regular students are limited to running only for class senate seats. The Junior Senators Killian Naylor '14.5 and Will Potter '14.5 — both Febs — raised issue with the amendments, arguing that

many Febs identify more strongly with their class than as Febs, and that it is unduly restricting to regulate their election privileges in this manner. The final amendments to the bylaws resulted in the following rules and included changes to the language concerning elections of Junior senators: to ensure a more proportional ratio of Febs to regular students in the Senate, Febs may run and vote only for Feb senate seats, while regular students may run and vote only for class seats. In addition, students hoping to fill junior senate spots will run for a senate seat in the fall and spring separately, so as not to discriminate against students who study abroad.

Further consideration of removing the

Feb senate seat altogether, in favor of combined class representatives for Febs and regular students, will continue in coming semesters.

The Director of Transportation Barbara Ofosu-Somuah '13 gave a report on the condition of the break buses. The program suffered a \$4,050 loss over fall break but recovered with a gain of \$3,760 over Thanksgiving vacation, for a net deficit of \$290. For the future, buses will be cancelled a week before the expected date of departure if not enough tickets are purchased. Ofosu-Somuah and Arnowitz both met with Midd Transit representatives but were unable to negotiate a change in price.



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Otter Creek Brewery wins big at international fair



COURTESY OF NEW MARKET PRESS VERMONT

Middlebury's own Otter Creek Brewing Company, pictured above, won four medals — a gold, a silver and two bronze — at the Great International Beer Fest in Providence, R.I.

By Erin Petry

Otter Creek Brewing Co. of Middlebury has made a name for itself within the nearby community and beyond. Recently they took home four medals (gold, silver and two bronze) at the Great International Beer Fest in Providence, R.I. Jed Nelson, director of brand marketing at Otter Creek Brewing, attributes the company's success to their "rock-star brewmaster," Mike Gerhart.

"We consider [Gerhart] to be the best kept secret in a state renowned for having some of the most skilled brewers in the country," said Nelson.

Indeed, Gerhart has won numerous prestigious awards and was classically trained in the art of brewing in Germany, where he graduated youngest in his class.

Prior to working for Otter Creek, Gerhart was a pilot brewer at Dogfish Head in Delaware. However, it is clear that Gerhart made a stellar choice in joining the Otter Creek crew in 2008. Gerhart has been able to surround himself with a world-class staff of brewers and an excellent production team. Nelson notes that Gerhart joined a group whose "success is predicated on the devotion of our entire staff to brewing some of the best tasting beers in the world." Otter Creek was one of the first breweries in Vermont, releasing their infamous Copper Ale in March of 1991. Originally founded by Lawrence Miller (current secretary of the Vermont Agency of Commerce), today Otter Creek is a subsidiary of Long Trail.

The company's flagship, Copper Ale, took second at the Great International Beer Fest in the German Altbeir category. This year, however, has not been the first time Otter Creek's beers have

shined on the international stage. In the past, their Copper Ale won gold at the Great American Beer Fest and the U.S. Open Beer Championship. Additionally, their Wolaver's Oatmeal Stout, Brown Ale, Otter Stove Pipe Porter and newest release, Hop Session, have all won medals.

"We consider [Gerhart] to be the best kept secret in a state renowned for having some of the most skilled brewers in the country."

**JED NELSON
DIRECTOR OF BRAND MARKETING
AT OTTER CREEK BREWING**

Despite their international success, the company still remains a quintessential Vermont brand, finding an ideal home in Middlebury. The company is committed to buying local and being good neighbors who are actively involved in the community.

"We source as many local ingredients as possible and work very closely with local farmers for everything from organic wheat, barley, pumpkins and Vermont organic honey," said Nelson.

Otter Creek connects to the community in many more ways than simply providing customers with award-winning beer. The company is a member of the Addison County Chamber of Commerce and sponsors many local events and charities such as Middlebury Festival on the Green, the Vermont Sun Triathlon, and Camp Takumta. One group with which the company hopes to engage is the student community at Middlebury College.

While Otter Creek clearly gives to the surrounding community, it also receives support and feedback from loyal customers.

"The craft-brew community is a very involved, extremely passionate and very vocal group, with lots of opinions and terrific feedback," said Nelson.

The company takes this feedback to heart, spending ample time and resources developing recipes.

"We spend a huge deal of time refin-

ing recipes, and tweaking materials and processes to produce better beer every day," said Gerhart.

Nelson adds that — after perfecting a recipe — the company puts painstaking effort into ensuring that their beers are consistent, batch after batch, pour after pour. Being awarded prestigious honors, such as the medals received at the Great International Beer Fest last month, offers validation that Otter Creek's efforts are exceeding expectations.

Otter Creek is a company that does not settle for less than excellent. The company is constantly improving and expanding. Most recently, Otter Creek purchased the Shed Brewery line. The Shed has been a Vermont staple since the 1960's and was once one of the most popular restaurants in Stowe. When the restaurant closed in 2011, Otter Creek bought The Shed line of beers. This fall, Otter Creek rebranded the line and released The Shed Mountain Ale and The Shed IPA, now available for the first time outside the state of Vermont.

In addition to making world-renowned beer, Otter Creek Brewing also delights in being responsible stewards of beautiful Vermont. Otter Creek is home to Wolaver's Fine Organic Ales, the nation's first USDA certified organic line of beers. In a world where the organic movement is outpacing the rest of the food and beverage industry, Otter Creek sees tremendous opportunity with the Wolaver's brand. In 2010, Nelson had the opportunity to project manage Wolaver's rebranding campaign and he asserts that the brand embodies a "farm to bottle" concept.

What are the company's plans for the future? In the next decade Otter Creek hopes to remain a prominent leader in the craft beer industry.

"As the nation's first line of USDA certified brews, we will continue to lead the way in keeping things local, flavorful and sustainable through organics," said Nelson. It seems that Otter Creek lives up to their motto "Better Beer, Better World."



COURTESY OF THEPERFECTLYHAPPYMAN.COM

Otter Creek Brewery's Copper ale took second place in the Great International Beer Fest.

Three accused in local meth bust

By Isaac Baker

On Wednesday Nov. 21, two residents of Hancock, Vt., Steven Arnold and Michael Wood, appeared in court to respond to the allegations of manufacturing and distributing methamphetamines out of their home on Route 125. This is the first major meth case to be prosecuted in Addison County.

Meegen Smith, another Hancock resident who lived down the street from Hancock and Wood, was simultaneously charged on Wednesday for teaching Arnold and Wood how to cook meth along with two other charges: violating probation and fleeing New York state after being charged with possession of meth ingredients like Sudafed, Drano and lithium ion batteries.

Arnold and Wood were each charged with two counts of distributing methamphetamine and one count of conspiracy in the sale of the drug. In sum, these charges could amount to 15 years in prison, accompanied with a fine of up to \$300,000.

All three suspects pleaded innocent to their charges.

The Southern Vermont Drug Task Force was responsible for the arrests, having received a tip from an informant who was seeking to lessen his sentence in a separate case. Detective Jeffrey Stephenson, a member of the task force, led the investigation and helped organize the two meth buys made by the informant that formed the evidentiary basis for the court case.

A few days prior to the purchases, the informant tipped the police about Wood and Arnold's operation on Route 125. The informant had heard that the lab had originally been located in the woods until it exploded and the alleged cooks moved indoors.

On Nov. 14, police outfitted the informant with a wiretap and gave him cash to make a purchase at the Route 125 home. The informant made his way to the house and successfully bought \$80 worth of meth, while gathering some incriminating evidence over the wiretap.



COURTESY OF THE ADDISON INDEPENDENT

Steve Arnold (left), Michael Wood (middle) and Meegen Smith (right) face meth charges.

Authorities also had received word from a second informant who claimed to have been driven to a pharmacy by Wood and asked to purchase Sudafed, lithium batteries and Drano.

On Nov. 19, police arranged for a second buy at the Route 125 home with the first informant, seeking further criminal evidence. During this purchase, Arnold spoke at length about the history of his meth manufacturing with Wood, and Smith before that.

"Arnold spoke about his first time manufacturing meth on his own and how he got a rush as the bottle began to swell up and he thought it would explode," the affidavit stated.

Arnold also acknowledged that he was aware of the criminality of his actions, according to court records.

"[Arnold] stated that just having lithium batteries, Drano and Sudafed is enough to convict you," he was heard saying.

Because of concern about meth manufacturing, Vermont state law prohibits the purchase of more than three packs of Sudafed by an individual in a month. As Wood is the owner of the home where meth was allegedly being produced, he chose not to buy Sudafed directly so as

to avoid suspicion, according to the affidavit.

On Nov. 20, police went out with a search warrant to Wood's home where they arrested Wood and Arnold and claim to have heard the duo confess to the manufacturing and use of meth.

In relation to the arrests, state police say that Smith will be charged with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine in addition to her outstanding criminal actions. Smith allegedly admitted to being a meth user but stated to the authorities that she had never cooked meth in the state of Vermont.

Judge Toor presided over the case and set bail for each of the accused. Wood's bail was set at \$75,000, a significant cost that was meant to reflect his previous violation of the conditions of his release from prison. Toor set the bail for Arnold at \$25,000 and ruled that Smith was to be held without bail due to her violation of her probation charge.

The three will be held in prison until the court date when a jury of their peers will hear the case. In the event that one of them makes bail, Toor stated that he or she would be required to participate in a substance abuse treatment program.

Connecting with Community

Some of the many ways Middlebury students get involved in the surrounding area

By Kelly Suralik

Have you ever wished to relive the glory of your middle school years? Whether you were a confident kid or one who kept your eyes cast downward while walking in the hallway between classes, middle school was a difficult time. Sister-to-Sister (STS) mentors, however, revel in the opportunity to be 13 again.

Sister-to-Sister is a club that invites girls from the immediate Middlebury area for monthly fun activities and exposes them to new experiences, such as log-rolling, zumba and international cooking. The College Sisters focus on discussing topics that are pertinent to the girls including body issues, relationships and self-defense. The grins and laughter of the girls are priceless.

Ninja + pumpkin carving + apple cider = October STS Event! On the warm Saturday in October when the event was held, the middle school students dug their hands deep into pumpkin guts on the back porch of Chellis House. The Sisters and girls just chatted. Sister-to-Sister emphasizes a comfortable, open environment for the girls to talk and be themselves.

Just before Thanksgiving break, Sister-to-Sister had its keystone activity of the year: the Summit. The Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts was teeming with young girls and college mentors, and energy levels were high. The day was filled with workshops, discussions, food and friend-

ship bracelets.

In the morning, I joined a few girls at the Poor Form Poetry workshop. As we sat on top of the conference table in the middle of a CFA classroom, the girls and I were entranced by the beat of the performed poems. When it was our turn to write down our thoughts, I was impressed by the girls' confidence and willingness to share personal stories with people that they had just met.

Other girls cooked up delectable sustainable treats at Self-Reliance, made beautiful melodies with the Mischords or "zenned out" with yoga. Later, Professor of Dance Christal Brown had us jiggling, hopping and stepping across the dance studio. While many girls felt uncomfortable at first, everyone participated with smiles.

In more serious discussions with the students, the college mentors talked about the pressures of friendships and self-empowerment as we sat cross-legged in a circle. It was humbling to see these young women take these conversations seriously and share about their tribulations at home and at school.

My favorite part of the Summit was the warm and fuzzies wall. Throughout the day, everyone writes Post-It notes to others that they met and sticks them on a wall. The white wall was covered in yellow, hot pink and blue notes by the afternoon. This year, the college mentors received a special note saying: "Dear college students: Thank



COURTESY OF KELLY SURALIK

Students mentor local girls through STS.

you. It was fun!" These notes warm our hearts and make all of the planning worthwhile.

The end of the day was bittersweet as we watched a slideshow of the day's happenings. Two girls arrived as strangers in the morning and became best friends by 4 p.m. Each girl leaves with a CD of "girl power" music and hopefully a bit more confidence.

I stumbled across Sister-to-Sister when one of the faculty advisors encouraged me to attend a meeting. I am forever thankful for my experiences. Not only have I enjoyed spending time with young girls, who are going to accomplish great things, I have met many inspirational people on this campus. The Sisters are my family.

LOCAL LOWDOWN 24

Stand-up Comedy in Vergennes

Come see some of Vermont's most uproarious comedians at the Vergennes Opera House this Friday. The show will feature Boston native Stephen Bjork and Vermont comedians Nathan Hartswick, Natalie Miller and Chad Cosby. There will be drinks and snacks available. Some content may not be appropriate for young children. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

Call 802-877-6737 for more information.

DEC. 7 8 P.M. - 10 P.M.

Holiday Bazaar and Open House in East Middlebury

This exciting annual holiday event at the Sarah Partridge Library and Community House will feature crafts for children and locally-made artisan holiday gifts for sale. Come by to purchase paintings, cards, maple syrup, honey, jewelry, candles and much more. There will also be a variety of delicious free refreshments available at the event.

DEC. 8, 9 A.M. - 12 P.M.

Bluegrass Gospel Project in Concert in Vergennes

This traditional bluegrass groups fuses the entrenched American tradition of bluegrass with the uplifting power of gospel to produce invigorating music for people of all ages.

Tickets are \$16 for adults, and \$14 for seniors and students. The show is free for children under nine.

For more information call 802-6737.

DEC. 8, 7:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

DJ Skate Night in Middlebury

Friends of Middlebury Hockey and the the Addison Central Teens (ACT) are co-hosting an exciting night of ice-skating fun at the Memorial Sports Center in Middlebury. The night will involve roller-rink-style ice skating and ice skate rentals will be available for those who do not have skates.

Tickets \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.

DEC. 8, 8 P.M. - 10 P.M.

Hannukah Party in Middlebury

Come to the Havurah House in Middlebury for a celebration of Hannukah this Sunday that will consist of a latke and jelly donut potluck, music, games and assorted crafts for children. Admission for the event is free, so bring friends and an appetite for delicious food and lots of Hannukah-themed merriment!

DEC. 9, 3 P.M. - 5 P.M.

Midd Winds Concert in Bristol

The Midd Winds, a local wind ensemble, will play the music of Richard Rogers, Richard Wagner and Robert Russell Bennett at the Holley Hall in Bristol. In addition to these classical melodies, an exciting assortment of seasonal and holiday favorites will also be performed for those people who are feeling festive. All of the music will be conducted by Catherine Ott. All donations will benefit the Holley Hall Acoustic Fund

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OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

A hard-hitting look at concussions on campus

After having been long overlooked as an unavoidable part of playing contact sports, concussions have only recently started to get the attention they deserve.

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* as decided by the editorial board.

The rise in media coverage is partly a result of recent controversies in sports leagues such as the N.H.L. and the N.F.L., in which athletes have started to demand that their safety be taken seriously. After the recent rash of concussion-linked

suicides by players — the death of N.F.L. player Junior Seau being an oft-cited example — along with the publication of numerous studies citing the danger of con-

cussions, it seems that people are finally starting to take concussions seriously.

Luckily for us, it is clear that Middlebury is ahead of some of its peer institutions when it comes to dealing with concussions. But there are still some strides to be made.

As a society, and, on a smaller level, as a college community, we still have much to learn about concussions. Too often concussions are brushed off as nothing serious. We are calling for our community to be more aware of the severity of concussions.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 3.8 million sports-related concussions occur in the United States each year. And athletes are not the only ones susceptible to concussions.

A concussion can no longer be dismissed as a minor injury. Studies have found that concussions are often linked to depression and serious changes in emotional stability. And the danger only

increases when concussions go undiagnosed, which, unfortunately, the majority of them do. Additional blows to the head that occur after a concussion become increasingly more debilitating.

Students who are suffering from a concussion should get the support and understanding they need from their professors. Therefore, professors must be educated on the true nature of concussions. There are many groups on campus that have the potential to raise this awareness — the health center, athletic department, Student Wellness Committee and commons deans are just a few possibilities.

A student suffering from a concussion may be temporarily unable to complete his or her academic work or attend class. Professors should understand that this is a case of putting a student's health above academics. The time it takes to recover from a concussion varies from person to person, and students should not be dissuaded from taking the time necessary to fully recover before returning to class. Student-athletes return to academics be-

fore athletics after suffering a concussion, but only after a gradual recovery period. What must be clear is that concussions are a health issue — they are not just a side effect of athletics.

Some groups on campus have already started to take the initiative to raise awareness of concussions. One such group is Concussions Speak, which Emma Kitchen '14.5 founded as an outreach and awareness program for people with concussions. It is clear that students are starting to take concussions seriously. In fact, on Nov. 11, the SGA passed the Resolution for Inclusive Athletic Injury Care on Campus in order to expand access to sports trainers to non-varsity athletes. We call on the administration to enforce this resolution. During last year's season alone, four Middlebury Water Polo players had concussions, but they could not access the College's trainers because Water Polo is not a varsity sport. This resolution must be enforced so instances such as these can be prevented in the future. The health of all Middlebury students — varsity athletes or not — must be a priority.

Our brains are much of the reason why we attend Middlebury. We all need to be aware of how to protect them.

"What must be clear is that concussions are a health issue — they are not just a side effect of athletics."

The Middlebury Campus

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Learning to take no for an answer

Dear my fellow students: I encourage you to lay down your passions, lay down the issues you care about and learn to take no for an answer. I have seen all this "so-called activism" around campus, and yet it is clear that the administration is unwilling to change — accept it. The administration has not responded to your demands in public, and behind closed doors with Investiture they say they will never divest. Isn't that clear enough? It is clear that all you need to do is get over your ego-driven selves and accept that these issues are clearly not important, just as our administrators have told us time and time again.

Most importantly, accept that you have no power — there is a reason that administrators were hired, to make the decisions for us! Let them do their jobs. Moreover, how dare you uppity college kids think that you know better than President Ronald D. Liebowitz, who is being paid \$750,000 for his work. Once you accept that you have no power to change anything, then you can get on with realizing that your ideals of "protecting human and planetary life" through "divestment" are also worthless. So, moral of the story, 1) sit down; 2) get over yourselves; and 3) give up.

The following was submitted to the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Treasurer of the College and the President of the College over three weeks ago. None have responded.

Title: Middlebury College Ethical Endowment Resolution

Whereas, in his address to the Middlebury community, the Dalai Lama stated, "You are the people that will shape the new world, [...] This century should be the century of peace;"

Whereas, the college mission statement reads: "The College's Vermont location offers an inspirational setting for learning and reflection, reinforcing our commitment to integrating environmental stewardship into both our curriculum and our practices on campus. Yet the College also reaches far beyond the Green Mountains;"

Whereas, the College "reaches far beyond the Green Mountains" in both its community and its investments;

Whereas, the College has a long-standing "commitment to integrating environmental stewardship into both our curriculum and our practices" through our pledge to become carbon neutral by 2016 as well as dozens of sustainability initiatives on campus;

Whereas, we recognize that investments in fossil fuel companies undermine the College's commitment to carbon neutrality and do not reflect our mission statement in "integrating environmental stewardship into both our curriculum and our practices;"

Whereas, Middlebury College supports numerous projects for peace around the globe every year, serves as the world head-

quarters for the Davis Projects for Peace, and is consistently ranked among the top colleges that send students on to work in the Peace Corps after graduation;

Whereas, we recognize that being invested in companies that make weapons and engage in war undermines Middlebury College's commitments and efforts to create peace in the world;

Whereas, divestment is a proven strategy for implementing an institution's values and standing against unethical practices around the globe, divestment has been used in the 1980's at Middlebury College to stand against South African Apartheid and in 2006 to stand against genocide in Darfur, and other liberal arts colleges have already divested from companies involved in the destruction of the planet and human life;

Whereas, Middlebury College's endowment is currently invested in armament manufacturers, fossil fuel industries and companies that support war efforts;

We, the Investment Committee of the Middlebury College Board of Trustees, hereby resolve that we will commit to screening our endowment to ensure that the College's investments are in line with its mission and values;

We, the Investment Committee of the Middlebury College Board of Trustees, hereby resolve that we will ensure by March of 2013 that Middlebury College is no longer invested in fossil fuel companies, companies that produce weapons or companies whose products are used directly in perpetuating violence and conflict.

Respectfully submitted,

Dalai Lama Welcoming Committee

We have become exceptionally good at taking no for an answer. Or maybe. Or we'll see. Or we'll hold a panel to discuss the issue. Or come to my next office hours to discuss the issue further. In fact, we have become exceptionally good at it because we got to Middlebury not because of our ability to challenge authorities, the status quo or hypocrisies, but rather to listen to what we're told, fly straight between the lines and excel at whatever we are told to do. So when administrators tell us to hold a panel, we rock that panel. When teachers tell us to write assignments, that's no problem because we have already figured out exactly what they want to hear. Moreover, when we have ideas that challenge the status quo, we have become exceptionally good at shutting up and taking no for an answer. Or maybe it's time to realize that we need to hold us all accountable to the professed ethics of our institution.

"Moreover, when we have ideas that challenge the status quo, we have become exceptionally good at shutting up and taking no for an answer. Or maybe it's time to realize that we need to hold us all accountable to the professed ethics of our institution."

CORRECTIONS

Because of an editorial error, the "Science Spotlight" published on Nov. 29 in the Arts & Sciences section contained incorrect information. Water is not a charged molecule, it is polar. In addition, the analogy that the research centers on how much butter should have been extended to include the focus on what type of butter.

The review of Forget Baghdad published on Nov. 29 in the Features section misquoted Amitai Ben-Abba '15.5. He was referring to self-identified leftist Arab Jews as rare, not Mizrahi Jews, which compromise a substantial portion of Israel's population.

The Campus regrets these errors.

The greatest nation

Traveling in Australia and New Zealand, you quickly realize that people here are incredibly interested, informed and invested in the outcome of the American presidential election. The result matters to them on several levels. Mostly, of course, it's symbolic; there was little daylight between the foreign policy platforms of President Barack Obama and the Republican nominee. But, fair or not, they tend to associate the Republican Party with the go-it-

APPLY LIBERALLY

Zach Dallmeyer-Drennen '13.5 is from Canadaigua, N.Y.

I found out the result of the election from the FM radio on a boat floating in a cove off the coast of Australia (rough life, I know). What struck me first was that the Australian news station reported the result at the top of their broadcast every hour. But mostly I was surprised by the way that they covered it: they didn't focus on the horse race. They didn't rattle off poll numbers or Electoral College scores.

But they did talk about Obama's reelection in terms of issues mostly absent from the campaign trail. They talked about how America would now keep its health care law. They talked about their hope that the President would address issues of global warming — a topic that his opponent raised only as a punch line. They talked about how the government of the United States could expand policies to end discrimination against people on the basis of their sexual orientation, and how Obama's support for gay marriage had not hurt his electoral chances as it might have just a few years ago. They said — invoking a term usually reserved as an epithet in our own country — that America became a little more liberal that night.

A few days earlier, we had a cab driver who had immigrated to Australia from India 15 years previously. As soon as he found out that we were from the United States, he spent the rest of the drive to the airport singing its praises — literally, by the end, playing us a song he'd written that mentioned everything from the moon landing to the super bowl over a techno beat. The cynic might dismiss it as an attempt to earn a tip, but there are no tips in Australia. Instead, they have a minimum wage of 17 dol-

lars per hour.

This cab driver raised a good point about the way the world sees Barack Hussein Obama. In Australia, the prime minister is white, as is the opposition leader. Colonization is not a distant memory; in both Australia and New Zealand, the Queen of England is still the nominal head of state. Asian immigration is viewed with fear, and bringing up the indigenous population is the easiest way to quiet a room. This is not the exception but the rule throughout much of the Western world.

To people like that cab driver, the fact that America would buck this trend, overcome hundreds of years of discrimination and put a person of color at the top of our chain of command — as the most visible man in the world and the face of the American power — is a symbol more potent than any statement or any policy. Obviously, the election of a single political figure does not mean that America has resolved its long history of racial oppression. But now, at least, that cab driver's son can grow up in a time when he can dream of becoming a world leader.

That is why the United States of America is still the greatest nation on Earth: we lead, and others follow. We set the example for much of the rest of the world. They listen to our music, they watch our mov-

ies, they follow our television shows and they eat in our restaurants. When another nation threatens — China, trying to enforce its will on the South China Sea; Russia, repressing democracy in Central Asia; Iran, threatening to destabilize the Middle East with a nuclear arms race — much of the world genuinely looks to us for leadership and protection. When we err, they are embarrassed for us not because they resent us, but because they know we can do better.

Every election year, we have the chance for a revolution. We can take to the streets, fill out our ballots and throw out our leaders. This is not unique to America, nor is our election process the best, fairest or most competitive. But, travelling as a citizen of the United States, you see just how much it matters on every inhabited inch of our planet. This November, we did something truly revolutionary: we looked at four terrible years and decided that our president deserved more time to fix things. Without firing a shot, we showed the world that we share their challenges, their hopes and their fears. We became a little more liberal.

"This November, we did something truly revolutionary: we looked at four terrible years and decided that our president needed more time to fix things."

To be or to be theirs?

Self-immolation may have become a somewhat grisly global phenomenon through the Arab spring, notably during the struggles in Tunisia, but recently it has tragically returned to where it has the most traditional associations: Tibet. Four Buddhists have set themselves alight in recent weeks in protest against the Chinese government, which they feel is suffocating the culture and impeding on the lives of the Tibetan people. In Catalonia, Spain, there is talk of an independence referendum following the re-election of Artur Mas as president of the region's parliament. In Scotland, even, where the SNP (Scottish Nationalist Party) holds a majority, there is an independence referendum set for 2014. And here in the United States, following Obama's election, secessionists have started petitioning the White House from pro-Republican states. Although on completely different scales, these are all current examples of independence movements.

It is interesting to contemplate how far this can go. It is the founding principle of the UN that there exists "the right of nations to self-determination," but what exactly constitutes a nation? When each and every region and faction has its own interests, its own culture, it naturally expects political powers. This logic can be followed down to the smallest of levels — regional, local, even tribal or familial. But if one reaches the point when each and every community wants nationhood, then a fair system of international relations would become impossible. In a world where each group becomes its own government, true anarchy would ensue. The obvious solution to this huge puzzle of tiny independent, culturally homogenous states would be larger infrastructures uniting them. They would be like unique individuals; to keep them in order one would need a higher political surrounding. You would, thus, end up requiring a government. This vicious circle points clearly towards the fact that independence movements ultimately shoot themselves in the foot. I am not for a moment defending China in the Tibetan struggle, but merely using current events as an example from which this argument can stem.

More relevantly, Scotland could leave the United Kingdom and lose a lot of its economic power. In order to consolidate this anticipated loss it plans to join the European Union; thus, being absorbed

by another large supra-national organization, would Catalonia in turn do the same? Most probably. We live in an increasingly inter-connected and inter-reliant world; it is suicidal to detach oneself from the powers-that-be. No one wants to be an unheard minority, but the argument that splitting off in order to become one's own majority goes against all modern social ethics. It negates all dreams of a multicultural, melting-pot society, all notions of international consolidation, as well as potential dreams of world peace. Siding with differences, splitting countries along every possible line, does not solve problems — it represents giving up on them.

The choice between breaking down nations to the smallest common denominator of shared culture and

specific identity vis-a-vis uniting various groups in order to provide all with theoretically better lives is the same as the age old dilemma between the desire for power and the desire for freedom. It is also a vicious circle that many small and weak nations will need higher organization for power, but then in turn any supra-national power would impede on its constituents' freedom, leading them to crave independence, and so on. In the long term, the pinnacle of each cycle is neither the struggle for nor the establishment of the new country, but the state of the old and larger one before it started to fall apart. That is where we should aim, towards fair, strong and powerful nation-states that do not effortlessly disintegrate over time.

It may seem like neo-imperialism when I'm preaching for larger political entities rather than smaller ones, but in the situation of a fair democracy this assures the best for all. The current dreams of independence may be a genuine reaction to true unfairness (Tibet), but in other less desperate circumstances it goes against all logic to make your people belong to a weaker, and not necessarily fairer country. And although I'm sure no one is really taking them seriously, the sore right-wing losers petitioning for secession in Texas and elsewhere fall perfectly into this category. Some smart nations are thankfully, however, picking up on the opposite trend — the U.S. must soon debate a potential new state: Puerto Rico.

EYES ON THE OUTSIDE

Jack Apollo George '16 is from London, U.K.

Fire Tara

The first op-ed I ever wrote for the *Campus* was titled "Keep Affolter." Her anti-racist protest at last week's affirmative action panel, however, "pushed [me] overboard." I am "done beating around the bush." It was a "destructive demonstration of [a professor] hijacking what could have been a constructive conversation and turning it into something isolating and embarrassing."

"Enough is enough."

I must retract the words I penned two years ago by pejoratively using her first name and advocating for the opposite.

Fire Tara.

My "major issue is not the message [she] was sending, but the means by which [she] chose to

do it: [she] used a platform that was not [hers] from which to preach and showed zero respect for an opinion that differed from [her] own." This "self-proclaimed" visiting professor has warped the notion of standing up for justice "into something contrary to its spirit."

"True activism should (and must) come from a place of love: of love for a people or a nation or a place or a community ... from a deep and intense desire to not only change the mindset of a group of people, but to change with them, to grab hands and dive into something new together." Tara stole the microphone from the person circulating it to those patiently waiting to make well reasoned remarks, stood up, and indoctrinated the audience. She had no desire to change with those she was speaking against.

"In this great community we have cultivated, we are pushed to believe that our solution is the only solution and that those who argue otherwise are not simply of a different opinion — they are wrong." We must stand against professors perpetuating this notion. She disrupted the panel to step onto a soapbox where she sermonized that it was not necessary for admissions to choose between social justice and families that valued books when considering applicants of color.

Her statement was a clear refusal to "grab the hands" of the panelist who was speaking when she hijacked the event. Her actions "alienate an incredible swath of people on this campus ... [and] do far more damage than they do good."

"There is a place for dialogue and action, a place for pushing one another to challenge

"Abiding by a mythical concept of time has inspired me to recognize that human progress rolls in on the wheels of inevitability and that disrupting unjust order simply knocks the wheels out of their tracks."

the status quo and there is a place for constructive criticism. However, there is no place for the kinds of disrespectful [anti-racist] activism that has been demonstrated by [Tara] this semester. [She] do[es] not listen, [she] do[es] not attempt to push or challenge or grow with the community; instead, [she] demand[s] attention and villainize[s] anyone who stands in [her] way."

Let it be known that we as a community will not tolerate this. Tara's contract is set to expire at the end of the year; a fact we certainly must cheer. However, unfortunately, her department has selected her as one of three finalists for a tenure track position. We must stand strong to ensure she is not selected. "To waste that opportunity" to fire her would be "an affront to our community and an embarrassment to our college."

Tara will be giving a lecture today at 4:30 in the Twilight Auditorium titled "Tell Them You Saw Me: Invisibility, Race and Racism in the Liberal Arts Classroom." Let us show up and use her tactics on her. Let us make our message clear: at Middlebury College, if you are going to make us feel uncomfortable to examine our own privilege and challenge the marginalization of people at this bastion of liberal consciousness, while unrelentingly advocating against oppression, even when it means disrupting white males espousing and practicing racism in our community, we are going to be against you.

* Thanks to my fellow community members, including those who composed the brilliant op-ed for Middblog, "Enough is Enough: Reflections on Campus Activism," from which I quote extensively. Your keen anti-activist insight has provided tremendously influential in pushing me to stand for order over justice and paternalistically set the timetable for another person's freedom, as King derided. Abiding by a mythical concept of time has inspired me to recognize that human progress rolls in on the wheels of inevitability and that those disrupting unjust order simply knock the wheels out of their tracks. I look forward to working with each of you to get those wheels back where they are comfortable; to rid this community of those who are not simply sated at being "lucky [to be] here at Middlebury." Language is a forte of our College. It is time that Tara learns to expand her vocabulary. Instead of merely stating "no" to injustice, she should learn how to say "thank you" for the four years we have allowed her to stay here. We will all be able to collectively mirror that phrase, sighing a "thank you" of relief, when the department courageously decides that after four years, enough is enough.

READER OP-ED

Jay Saper '13 is from East Lansing, Mich.

I WISH I WERE UNDER THE WORD COUNT SO I COULD TALK ABOUT CORPORATE WORD COUNTS

The following regards conversations on campus surrounding divestment, activism and diversity, which all directly relate to corporatization. It links newspaper reporting, silencing of oppressed voices and investing in unethical companies, while advocating for free and just existence on earth, an aim achieved through de-corporatizing our means and methods.

The Campus is preoccupied playing referee in a public debate between legitimate voices, assuming anyone attempting to disrupt public order

READER OP-ED

Amitai Ben-Abba
'15.5 is from Jerusalem

to get their message in the paper is by definition illegitimate. Accordingly, when an audience member calls out a transnational corporate executive for supporting the execution of activists (the indigenous Ogoni 9 who refused displacement of their communities in the name of oil addiction and increasing returns for Shell), the Campus reported the corporate representative was "interrupted for alleged human rights violations." It didn't report the activist's actual words.

The paper drowns the voices of activists with those of their critics. The defense of corporate crimes is forefronted, further marginalizing those most affected. The job of the corporate public relations office is done for them, without ever having to pass along a check to the paper. As anthropologist David Graeber describes in *Direct Action*, the reigning editorial logic is that to reproduce the hecklers' actual words would allow them to "hijack" the media; it would make the newspaper partially responsible if anyone acted similarly in the future.

Also, our established media has lightened the activist toolbox to corporately approved means: educational panels, screenings, appeals to figures of authority. When there is a dispute between contested authority and protesters, Graeber explains most newspapers do what they always do in such contexts — try to appear even-handed by staking out an

editorial position somewhere in the middle. Consequently, challenging an unjust status quo is authoritatively de-legitimized.

Last March, we learned that the College invests in arms manufacturing and big oil, but, as a community, we did not act. The formation of SRI, as a sub-group of Student Investment Committee (SIC) six years ago, demonstrates this knowledge was nothing new.

As Olav Ljosne so successfully taught us, "transparency" is a PR tactic, used to either vanish or sustain insurgency under corporate supervision. Indeed, [President of the College Ronald D.] Leibowitz recently confirmed in an all-campus email — Investure has revealed that some \$32 million and \$6 million of our endowment are directly invested in fossil fuels and arms manufacturing respectively. One percent invested in death is one percent too many. In a press release, 350.org ignored the information [President of the College Ronald D. Leibowitz] revealed and disregarded the percentage invested in weaponry, encouraging us to go "fossil free" while leaving us more to invest in war.

So, why do students keep propagating corporate interests? Our very own SIC voted last week to invest in BP Oil. SIC has also invested in Exxon Mobil, which, by the way, "recruited, paid, supplied and managed sections of the Nigerian military and police." This phenomenon is so warped it's worth closer examination.

The Board of Trustees founded SIC as an educational project in 1987, relinquishing \$100,000 of the endowment for play. SIC's portfolio has performed very well. One needn't study macroeconomics to know the rule(s) of finance — maximum returns by all means necessary. SIC states in its mission: "The only reason you should play poker is to make money." The same rule applies to investing.

Today, SIC has approximately \$325,000 of the endowment to play with. Having learned how to "play poker" by successfully investing in arms manufacturing and environmental degradation, SIC alumni go on to top Wall Street jobs. It's like giving children guns to play with before they get

drones, F16s and cluster bombs in the "real" world.

This is not a personal attack. I see these atrocities as collective responsibilities. I remember the words of a friend of mine who is in the Israeli military. He confessed he doesn't want to talk about politics because it destabilizes him; it makes him question decisions he's struggling to be happy about. He is not alone.

Many Israeli Defense Force soldiers, corporate reporters and finance managers display sympathy to activist causes. Analogously, the corporate behavior exemplified by our student body is not entirely due to personal bias — it is structural. So long as SIC reproduces actual investment portfolios and the Campus emulates the structure of corporate newspapers, we will see corporate trends regardless of members' opinions: "Individual opinions are not really that important [...] within an institutional structure that renders their opinions irrelevant." (Graeber)

During the talk on socioeconomic diversity last week, a student asked our Associate Director of Admissions whether we admit students based on the likelihood of them donating after graduation, which can be modeled while remaining "need blind." She both confirmed this practice of the College and explicitly denounced it as unfair. Little action is possible within the structure she submits to in that office.

These are sad prospects for the College and the world. But all hope is not lost. This is not the end of history. Capitalism was preceded by feudalism. It will be succeeded. As active actors within capitalist order, we must ask ourselves how to subvert our authoritative positions in order to build the egalitarian foundations of the new society, within the crumbling structures of the old.

Education or corporation? Leibowitz's response is a result of our collective actions, indicating that we can re-imagine the world as we want to see it, without making concessions. I can't quote Desmond Tutu enough. It's time to stand up to our values. Remaining neutral is taking the side of the oppressor. Let's start with a 100 percent ethically invested endowment.

Dialogues on repeat

A good friend of mine told me about a conversation she had considering the dialogue present on campus, how people are always speaking about an issue, stringing eloquent sentences together and producing infallible logic that is birthed, lives and dies in the span of 15 minutes in the Proctor booths. She pointed out that all of the conversations seem to have the same meta-narrative, that we're talking to one another but the information is just reproductions of things that have already been said.

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Jessica Munyon '13.5
is a Photos Editor from
Des Moines, Iowa.

I was reminded of "The Vanek Trilogy," a play recently produced in the Hepburn Zoo about former Czech President Vaclav Havel. The conversations Havel had with the other characters would spiral redundantly around superfluous dialogue until Havel himself breaks the repetition and engages in the simple intrigues of the characters. Even then, nothing is gained but the appeasement of those around him.

Thinking about some of the recent issues that have been prominent on campus, like the judicial hearing or affirmative action, and how the student body has been addressing them in dialogue, I noticed that same trend of repetition and redundancy. Many of our conversations offer similar opinions. Some phrasing is more politically correct, some arguments are better informed but the cliff-notes are comparable, as though we're merely playing back the information without adding our own interpretation.

Assistant Professor of Sociology, Linus Owens, sent my sociology class an article earlier this week that underlines this same pattern. The author, Thomas Frank, points to recent publications of prominent intellectuals and claims that the meta-narrative of movements like the Tea Party trend the same grievances against the state as a result of what he terms "groupthink."

I see the community here at Middlebury College experiencing the same groupthink cycle that leaves us at the same tautological odds with ourselves and with each other.

A successful movement, which in a sense is really a collection of people working to enact systemic or ideological change, is made successful by the efforts and the means of individuals working toward those ends.

For this campus, that means critically considering not only what we're learning about, but how we're approaching the ideas.

On paper, Middlebury students are an amalgamation of movers, shakers and game

changers — a diverse body of individuals. One would expect to find so many varying opinions and critical concepts being shared, but that's not always the case, and I have to wonder why.

Consider our agency in this college on the hill. How many resources, monetary and otherwise, did it take to bring us here? The College's mission statement expresses the need to cultivate the intellectual through independent thought. The expectation is that we take what we learn and lead with that intellect, representing the identity of the College in the global community.

But this mission is an ideal, and it's easy to idealize our participation here as a reality when we're not challenging each other beyond the context of what dominant narrative.

However, the intellectual exercise of cultivating independence and leadership that our mission statement acknowledges has become very self-serving. I don't really think we're practicing what our mission statement preaches either in this community or in the larger context of the communities from which we've come or to which we're headed if in practice we're reciting an already established set of ideals.

Identity is in constant metamorphosis, always pushing against invisible barriers and hoping for a better outcome. I invite this community to critically consider how it is defining its identity. Are we satisfying personal needs or are we using the resources with which we've been privileged to respond to the ideological or systemic change we're striving toward as a collective?

Toward the end of the conversation with my friend, I asked her if there was something to gain from these patterns of tautological dialogue; she replied, "They make us aware of something ... at the very least they've shed light on the things unsaid."

So I'm asking that we work to consider the value of what isn't immediately present in our discussions. At the end of the day, our strong affinities of color coordinating blue and white and the eloquent details of the descriptions found in the brochures of the admissions office equate to a stereotypical Midd Kid that can play nicely with the other stereotypical Midd Kids in the collegiate sandbox. We can be more than that by applying our own imaginations to the ideological structure of this institution to create something new rather than reproducing what already exists.

Let's try not to default to the same undercurrent of accordance that has characterized most of the conversations on this campus, and we might be able to forge a countermelody to these groupthink dialogues on repeat.

The lost vocation?

Religious vocations used to be a big deal at this school. At the beginning of the 1800s, the majority of Middlebury graduates became ministers, who were required to read the Greeks and probably had to wash their own dinner dishes. I don't blame us for forgetting these origins — we were a little caught up creating gender, racial and socioeconomic diversity, figuring out how to accommodate the ice-skaters, the oboe-players and the aspiring architecture-neuroscience majors. These are all good things. I am fully for combating bigotry and fostering equal opportunity. But I want to know where the clergy went. When did Midd say goodbye to all its chaste, God-fearing, Latin-learned dudes?

To most of us here today, a religious vocation sounds like the last absolute call on earth we would hear. But education, at its earliest, was not about figuring out what color your parachute was. It was largely about the cultivation of self-discipline.

My friend Ian said something a couple weeks ago that is still rocking my brain — that essentially, our educations at Middlebury are defined by how we choose to spend our time. The liberal arts system enables and complicates this simple sort of characterization, as it creates the space and opportunity for myriad different choices and establishes systems to make the process and consequences of those decisions act as another kind of educational experience. Now we have more vocations than doctor, lawyer or minister to choose from, but we also have to cooperate with the negotiations of a community based on more than one canon and learn the bureaucratic intricacies that continue post-grad. But the theory is eye-glaze-inducing until you apply it to your personal situation.

Ian's example was the recent episodes of "activism" on campus. One way to distill those students' activities — or the way they choose to spend their time — is to reframe their self-proclaimed protest as their "education in activism." We could envision the same for people who engage in all kinds of extracurriculars, formal and deliberately informal. The members of WRMC are educated in audio production and sexy radio voices. The yoga-practitioners are educated in flexibility and energetic harmony. The guy who crafts the most insightful advice for a pair of feuding housemates? An education in peer mediation. All these different, unofficial disciplines are part of the project of learning how to be a human being. It's an education in the field of self.

We have to respect the fact that everyone is straining to hear a vocational call. We can disagree on what is a useful way to

spend our time, but we can't go condemning anyone for getting it wrong. In college, the activists may throw a tasteless protest. The girl who wants to be a publicity agent may throw a terrible party. But it's generally okay, because the chemistry kids over there are definitely screwing up that experiment, and I definitely failed an English paper this semester. We are 20 years old and we are just trying to get it right. (Though "generally okay" doesn't validate an educational program that alienates the community, breaks laws that protect human dignity, etc. You may wonder — will she ever stop using parentheses to avoid taking a stand?)

In a zoomed-out world, as we take an honest look at the history of the human race, it is just era after era of people making the wrong decisions about how to spend their time. We run around trying not only to do the right thing, but to do

our right thing, to find our calling. It's funny, though, how hard we try and how repeatedly we miss the opportunity to be humble. I feel like I would be more impressed by a student who chose to make his or her point by scrubbing the stones on the Proctor Terrace rather than the one who drew graffiti on a wall. Somehow, when you zoom in on the day-to-day, you start to see that the choice to do something classically "good for you" — often code for gross and boring — actually results in good things. Your mother doesn't tell you to eat broccoli for no reason, just like they didn't make Middlebury students read Aristotle for no reason. People wouldn't keep making sacrifices, big or small, if they were just empty promises. The people who make their way towards Mecca on their knees are answering a call, and doing so with a lot more passion and sincerity than I will ever know.

I took on the project of visiting one church of every faith during my remaining time here at Middlebury. Believe it or not, church is not always a fun session of enlightenment for me. It can be a dry, tedious, meaningless discomfort. I will be thrust into new discomfort when I leave for Turkey next semester and have to patiently learn a new set of unspoken cultural laws. But I think if we are unafraid of adding calculated effort to our educations, if we challenge ourselves to listen closely to all the little lessons in the ways we spend our time — the good, the bad, the spectacularly boring — something miraculous just might happen.

THE CRACK SPIRIT GUIDE

Eliza Wallace '14 is
from Shepherdstown,
W. Va.

EXPERTS IN RESIDENCE

by Lauren Davidson, Michelle Smoler, Josh Kruskal and Stephanie Roush

Middlebury College employs several in-residence professionals. Whether it's a scholar-in-residence or an artist-in-residence, these people function as resources for the students and other faculty. Writer-in-Residence Julia Alvarez, described these professionals as people with their feet in two worlds, one in the professional world and one in the academic world. These professionals offer their expertise in their fields to students and also help put Middlebury on the non-academic map. Francois Clemmons greatly contributes to the College's programs in the arts. Jeffrey Lunstead, a long-time diplomat in South Asia, brings real experience to the classroom setting. Sue Halpern, a writer in narrative journalism, spearheads the College's journalism fellowships and offers her real world experience in an ever-important field. These professionals "in-residence" work both on and off campus to help the College offer the resources necessary to be an institution of the highest caliber.



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DIPLOMAT-IN-RESIDENCE

Jeffrey Lunstead brings a different element to the international and global studies department — years of experience in the Foreign Service.

Before coming to the College to teach a winter term course in January of 2008, Lunstead spent 29 years as a dedicated Foreign Service officer, living and working in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Malaysia. Additionally, Lunstead acted as the ambassador to Sri Lanka and Maldives from 2003 to 2006.

After many years abroad, Lunstead decided it was time to return to his original career plan and work as an educator.

"I had actually thought I was going to go into teaching, but I didn't have a job right [when I graduated]," said Lunstead. "I got a job offer from the Foreign Services right at that moment, so I thought I'd try that for a while. And 29 years later, I thought maybe I would go back to my Plan A."

Lunstead now teaches one course per semester in the international studies and political science departments, and most of his courses deal with his specialty — South Asia. In addition to teaching, Lunstead also advises students who are interested in careers in international relations and others who are working to set up seminars or symposiums. He also works with the Career Service Office, giving talks on international careers to students interested in working overseas or in international affairs in the United States.

Lunstead was originally attracted to the position at Middlebury for his familiarity with the area. His family has vacationed in the Adirondacks for many years. Other than Middlebury's ideal location, Lunstead was interested in the importance that the College places on global perspectives.

"Middlebury is a funny place," said Lunstead. "We have this small liberal arts college in rural Vermont with this very strong international emphasis, in terms of international students, students who study languages and students who study abroad."

To expand upon his experiences, Lunstead connects his classes to the real world using simulations and role-playing exercises. For example, students can play out different scenarios during class by taking on the role of Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton. Through these kinds of hands on learning experiences, Lunstead believes that his experience can bring a new frame of mind to the classroom.

"Both enjoy it because it's a different perspective on the thing that they're studying," said Lunstead.

As a diplomat-in-residence, Lunstead's position is based on "term appointment," which means that his length of stay is an agreement between him and the College. Currently, Lunstead is scheduled to remain at Middlebury for another three years. Lunstead wants to continue teaching down the road in hopes of sharing his interests and experience with future students.

"I love interacting with the students here because I find them not only smart, because everyone knows that Middlebury students are smart, but [additionally] students are also extremely engaged and interested in finding out about the world," said Lunstead. "I love South Asia ... and the opportunity to [educate] other people so that they can also be interested is a great opportunity."

"I really get a lot out of [working at the College] because it gives me a community that keeps me thinking and learning and growing."
Julia Alvarez

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Francois Clemmons

first came to Middlebury in 1980, and observed "the leaves were so beautiful. The weather was so beautiful, and I walked and I thought this is like a magic kingdom. I just love it."

In the 15 years that Clemmons has been artist-in-residence, he has been given generally free reign to define his position.

"The College really doesn't tell me what to do," explained Clemmons. "I make a chronology of what I've done throughout the year. And I'll never forget Robert Shine was the Dean of the Faculty and I had a meeting with him and he said [upon seeing the chronology] 'if it aint broke, we're not going to fix it.'"

Clemmons has been prolific with his involvement in the school. Some of his long-standing contributions include teaching a winter term course titled "American Negro Spirituals," popular among a less-likely musical crowd of first-years and athletes. Another project of his is the Martin Luther King Spiritual Choir, which developed out of the American Negro Spirituals course.

"I've got this rag-tag group choir," said Clemmons, "... through [which] I like to encourage people who are not musicians to have a musical experience before they graduate from Middlebury College. Ninety percent of the kids who sing with me don't read music, they're introverts ... and they come and I encourage them, I nurture them ... to try and help them to contact that deep emotional part of themselves that will allow them to sing."

The flexibility of Clemmons's position allows him to move among major departments and share his expertise across various fields of study — from the dance department to literature programs.

"[The College has] just been so receptive, I've explored parts of my personality that I don't think I would have done in New York City."

Clemmons is also responsible for the conception of the annual St. Patrick's Day celebration, which he delights in, as a lover of Irish music and musicians such as world-renowned Irish-tenor John McCormack.

"I don't think if I lived in New York they would tolerate an openly-gay black man doing a St. Patrick's Day celebration," said Clemmons. "They wouldn't! ... But here in Vermont they let me do it. And I think that's a huge honor that no one is saying you couldn't do that because you're not Irish and you're black. ... They understand that I'm doing it because I love Irish music."

One of Clemmons favorite undertakings has been singing the national anthem at basketball games.

"I am so patriotic and a lot of the boys are in my class," said Clemmons. "I have a legacy that goes back 10 to 12 years of [supporting] basketball players."

However, after years of dedication to the school and community, Clemmons has made the decision to retire at the end of the academic year — to slow down, finish his autobiography (already at an unedited 700+ pages) and of course, continue enjoying a life of music.

"The College has been very generous to me all the years that I've been here," said Clemmons. "I hope to continue when I retire to be a part of the College."

"[Middlebury students are] very adventurous both intellectually and academically ... I find that really refreshing."

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

Sue Halpern

came to Middlebury seeking a balance between her career as a writer and her life as an academic.

Halpern is a published writer who focuses on "narratives of all forms." Her most recent book, *Can't Remember What I Forgot*, came out in 2012. The book chronicles Halpern's exploration of the world of modern memory science and neurology.

At the College, Halpern is a member of the department of English and American literatures.

"I was an academic in an earlier life. I realized that I wanted to focus on writing and not so much on being an academic. Then for a while I didn't do any teaching and I wasn't affiliated with any academic institution," she said.

Since coming to Middlebury, Halpern has been very active in promoting narrative journalism at the College.

In 2003, Halpern helped to create Meet the Press, a program which invites journalists to give lectures at the College.

"[Meet the Press] brings journalists into our midst and lets us have a go at them to help us understand what they're doing in the world," Halpern said.

Halpern also helped create the Middlebury Fellowships in Narrative Journalism in 2008 along with Matt Jennings, editor of *Middlebury Magazine*. This program produces the "How did you get here?" audio slideshow series, which recounts students' pre-Middlebury histories.

Halpern mentioned that she enjoys collaborating with students on this and other projects.

She said that she thinks Middlebury students are "very adventurous both intellectually and academically. They're really willing to try new stuff; they want to be entrepreneurial and be out in the world. I find that really refreshing."

Halpern frequently engages with students, providing students interested in narrative journalism and storytelling in general with an outlet for their interest.

"Right now I'm working with a group of students on ... producing podcasts for a project that I'm working on for the *New York Review of Books*," she said. "We read books together and talk about them and do background work on them and then we interview the authors. We then do digital editing and make audio slideshows."

Halpern also mentors students participating in independent study projects.

Halpern's husband is Bill McKibben, an environmental author and activist who also works as a scholar-in-residence. Halpern said that while she and her husband both enjoy working at Middlebury, the divergent nature of their work doesn't allow for many opportunities to collaborate academically.

Overall, Halpern said that her experience working at the College has been immensely positive.

"It's a great place to be for all sorts of reasons," Halpern said.

"The facilities are unparalleled, [and] the faculty is really welcoming. People here are doing interesting work, and they're working collaboratively as well," she said. "Then you've got this incredible student energy as well, which I think is just remarkable."

WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE

Julia Alvarez

first set her eyes on the green mountain state when she came here in the summer of 1969 to attend the Breadloaf Writer's conference after winning a poetry prize at Connecticut College for Women.

"I came up to Breadloaf and fell in love with the place," said Alvarez. After attending the conference Alvarez decided that she had to transfer to the College.

"I walked into the admissions office and I said I have to come here," she said.

Her enthusiasm threw the admissions officer at the time for a loop. He tried to tell her there was a whole process to which she had to apply to transfer.

After hearing this, Alvarez responded, "I'll just move to town and work until I can get in."

With her persistent attitude, Alvarez received a call a week later and enrolled in the College. Alvarez explained that she loved every minute of her time at the College, but that the teachers were really what made the difference in her undergraduate education.

"Excellent teachers really nurtured what I called my calling," said Alvarez. The calling to which she refers is writing, especially poetry, fiction and creative non-fiction.

"I call myself a migrant poet," said Alvarez, who earlier in her career worked as a teacher, travelling from place to place teaching whenever she could and always writing. When Alvarez got a call from the College asking about whether she would want to have a temporary teaching position at the College for one year she immediately said yes. Her one-year gig quickly turned into a 10-year commitment, and soon after that she was being considered for tenure.

The one problem with granting Alvarez tenure was that she needed to have published work in order to be considered. Alvarez quickly compiled her writing and *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents* was published in 1991.

"I got tenure and I thought of this as my tenure book," she said. Yet, with the great success of *Garcia Girls* Alvarez became overwhelmed with the great task of both teaching and writing.

"I gave up tenure to be a full-time writer," she said, but I had also fallen in love with the classroom." Wanting to remain involved with the College, Alvarez worked with the administration to create a role for her on campus. The College's only writer-in-residence, Alvarez expressed how grateful she is to the College for being so accommodating.

"I really get a lot out of it because it gives me a community that keeps me thinking and learning and growing," she said. Alvarez just finished her first creative non-fiction book, *A Wedding in Haiti*.

"I'm really interested in creative non-fiction. The older I get, the world becomes more and more baffling," said Alvarez.

Alvarez enjoys remaining connected to the College and acts as the adviser to the Alianza student group and is also a thesis adviser as well. Alvarez credits the College with keeping her constantly engaged and continues to ask questions about the nature of her work.

"The quandary now for me as a writer is, what is the role of the storyteller in the circle of transformative change?"

TASTE CHEESE WITH CHOPSTICKS



BY JIAYI ZHU

I'm not the first one to taste cheese with chopsticks. There are numerous talented people who have come to a new place with their unique cultural backgrounds and produced masterpieces by connecting different cultures.

Ang Lee is definitely one of them. He is a famous director who has produced well-known movies including *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* and *Brokeback Mountain*. He was born in Taiwan and he received his bachelor's and master's degree in the United States.

He has the talent to dive from one culture to another. In his recent film *Life of Pi*, he narrates a story of an Indian boy drifting in a lifeboat with a tiger named Richard Parker. It is not merely an adventure movie — it talks about nature, religion and our position in this world.

In almost all of the interviews Lee has done recently, the interviewees asked him how different cultural backgrounds have influenced his work. His answer solved a question of mine I have held for a long time.

"Growing up in traditional Chinese culture," Lee said, "I'm used to tolerance and moderation. But getting to know the western, I find myself longing for conflicts, struggles and dreams. It is in this unstable inner state that I am able to continue the creation process."

We will not question our philosophy of life until it has been challenged. It is all so common for us to repeat the same routine we have been practicing all our life. Repeating is safe, while changing is risky. But nothing will sparkle without friction. We cannot see the other facets of an object if we keep staring at it from one angle.

Cheese and tofu are different, but they share similar status in western and eastern diet respectively. Cheese comes from cows or goats, while tofu comes from soybeans. Cheese is an important and valuable source of protein in west, while tofu provides the same nutrition in east. They are both in milky white color and often appear in cube shape.

I ate more cheese than I had tasted in my past 18 years in my first week of living in Vermont. At the beginning, the strong flavor of goat cheese was disgusting for me. But soon, I came to appreciate the rich flavor of it, which at the same time made me more grateful for the light flavor of tofu.

It is a similar case for the tableware we use. Fork and chopsticks may seem not relevant at all if we merely look at their appearance. But they both function well on picking up the food from our plates.

I was frustrated when first learning about western table manners, and I believed I would never be able to use the right fork for different dishes. I have seen foreigners get upset at a Chinese restaurant when they were not able to get a bite of rice from the bowl right in front of them using chopsticks. The discomfort to expose myself under a new culture for me is never the fault of that specific culture, but rather how hard I try to accept and appreciate it.

It will be interesting to taste little-basket buns with fork next time, and I will remember not to burn myself.

Student competes on "Millionaire"

By Claire Abbadi

Continuing the streak of students on reality television, David Elper '15 was a contestant on Double Your Money Week of the long-running show, "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" that aired this past Tuesday, Nov. 27. Elper, who left the show with \$1,000 in winnings, answered five questions correctly, skipped the sixth and got the seventh wrong.

"I had accumulated \$12,600 until the seventh question, but if you get one question wrong in the first 10 questions then you drop down to \$1,000" explained Elper.

It was seventh question that challenged Elper and the audience and led to his early loss. When asked about the "Toonoki Suit" in the popular Super Mario video game, Elper opted to use one of his "lifelines" and polled the audience. The audience narrowly provided the wrong answer and lead Elper to believe that the "Toonoki Suit" is made of fur from a flying fox.

"It's a raccoon dog, apparently" laughed Elper. "I asked the audience, but they had no idea either."

Despite the challenge at the end, Elper demonstrated remarkable knowledge during his time on the show, including the fact that the mythological figure Achilles' death is thought by medical experts to have been caused by a punctured posterior tibial artery or that Vulcan was a hypothetical planet that 19th century scientists were convinced was real, until Einstein proved it didn't exist.

The show, which was filmed back in September, goes through an elaborate screening process to choose potential contestants. Elper and other potential contestants have to go to a "Millionaire" testing center for a written exam. If the candidates pass the exam, they are immediately sent to do a subsequent interview and audition. If potential contestants pass all of these steps, they are put into a contestant pool and are then selected based off of their results from the exam, audition and interview.

"They record you answering questions as if you were on the show as a part of the audition process," explained Elper, "and are ultimately looking for people who would come across well on television, as opposed to people who would get questions right."

Elper received a postcard indicating that he had made it into the contestant pool and was informed some time after that he would be on the show. He then travelled to New York City in September for the filming of the show and was the youngest contestant on the show that evening.

Elper said being a contestant was a positive experience and so was talking to "Millionaire" host Meredith Viera about the College.

"She actually knew about Middlebury, so that was nice," laughed Elper. "But, it all went by really fast and was all kind of surreal"

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE: DAVID ELPER'S QUESTIONS FROM "WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE?"

Question 1: In 2005, what rapper famously altered his name, claiming that the "P" was "getting in between me and my fans"?

- A: Eminem
B: Jay-Z
C: Diddy
D: Kanye West

Question 2: Not to be confused with Spock's home, what hypothetical planet were 19th century scientists convinced was real, until Einstein proved it didn't exist?

- A: Bajor
B: Kronos
C: Vulcan
D: Romulus

Question 3: Not boding well for its tourism industry, Knoxville, Tenn. was given what title in 2012 because of the extremely high pollen count there?

- A: Allergy Capital
B: Garbage Capital
C: Insect Capital
D: Traffic Capital

Question 4: According to medical experts, what mythical figure's death could actually have been caused by a punctured posterior tibial artery?

- A: Samson
B: Achilles
C: Hercules
D: Oedipus

Question 5: Which of these television networks briefly used a xylophone and mallet as its logo?

- A: FOX
B: ABC
C: NBC
D: CBS

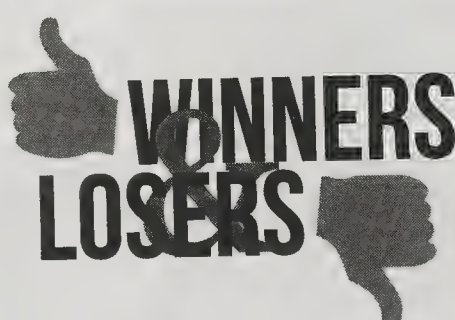
Question 6: After a bad review of his daughter's singing, what president told the critic he would need "a lot of beefsteak for black eyes?"

- A: William Taft
B: Harry Truman
C: Lyndon Johnson
D: Woodrow Wilson

Question 7: In 2011, PETA criticized "Super Mario 3D Land" for Mario's use of a "Tanooki suit," which is ostensibly made from the fur of what animal?

- A: Badger
B: Flying fox
C: River Otter
D: Raccoon dog

Answers: Q1: C Q2: C Q3: A Q4: B Q5: C Q6: B Q7: D



Special Edition



DALAI LAMA
Spiritual leader dons a Middlebury hat. Adorableness ensues.

FALL SPORTS
A solid season for all. Us NARPs really enjoyed the tailgates.

WILD ANIMALS
Proctor kitty? Skunks? Middlebury College Zoo to open in 2016.

SANDY
We may have lucked out, but the storm wreaked havoc elsewhere ...

ATWATER LUNCHES
Still a favorite. Thanks dining staff, keep 'em coming!

MUSIC ON CAMPUS
Alive and well, the live music scene made weekends even better.

FUN SHOW MOVED
They flaked on us for SNL? That's no fun!

APOCALYPSE?
Good luck on the 21st! Here's hoping the Mayans were wrong.

ELECTION
EVERYBODY WINS.
Kind of ...

QUIDDITCH
Middlebury is not competing in the World Cup this year. Come on, we made up this sport!

CAMPUS CHARACTER: MITCHELL PARRISH

By Meredith White

Mitchell Parrish '14 loves Thai food more than he loves Chinese food. He loves Bazooka and Eclipse gum, but for different reasons. He loves technology but not cell phones.

"I think it would be fine if we all just had personal home phones," he said.

However, his apathy towards cell phones and current lackluster effort to relocate his misplaced phone is not reflective of his fascination with technology. As a political science major, Parrish works for Leng Professor of International Politics Allison Stanger researching specifics within the broader topic of technology's effects on politics. Stanger's class, Politics of Virtual Realities left a strong impression on Parrish, as it explored technology's role in social, political and economic realms.

"The opportunities are endless when it comes to the Internet and creating things," said Parrish, "we've only scratched the surface. We don't even know what the Internet is. We just know that we can communicate remotely now."

According to Parrish, the potential of tapping into virtual spaces is on the horizon.

"I think it will be Matrix-esque but not as scary," he said.

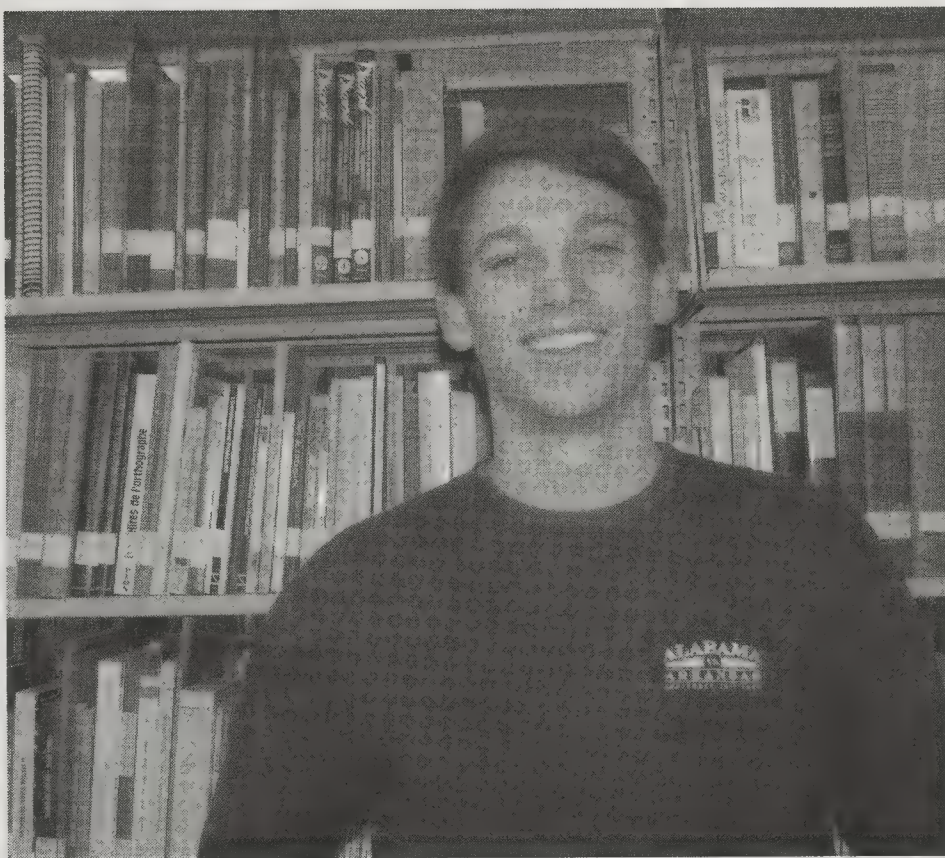
In the meantime, Parrish decided to read up on computer programming.

"I was eight chapters in and I was like why am I doing this? I'm not going to be a programmer. I just read about it," Parrish said. "My friends like to say I'm a little more of a geek about technology than I lead on," he added.

Parrish holds many interests outside of his passion for technology. He enjoys movies, including Woody Allen's "Annie Hall." He loves the Grateful Dead's "Eyes of the World", specifically the Nov. 11, 1974 Winterland live edition. On Tuesday, he loved the Kinks' "Strangers."

"I've always played in a band. I've always played with music. This semester it's been a thing. It's kind of become real to some point," said Parrish who plays guitar and bass and is a member of the band Thank God for Mississippi.

This semester also marks the beginning



STEPHANIE ROUSH

Mitchell Parrish '14 brings technology to music as a garage band beat composer.

of Parrish's attempt at being a Garageband beat composer. Technology meets music — seems like a match made in heaven for Parrish the tech junky musician.

As a seasoned musician in the traditional sense, Parrish's testimony gives validity to the growing front of amateur Soundcloud-caliber composers, a group that brings definitions of artistry and music into question.

"Is there too much music?" Parrish wonders. "The internet is now music, porn and cat videos. It's limitless. It's gotta be organized somehow. If I could be a musician, I would have to find a niche," said Parrish.

The idea of touring as a struggling artist doesn't sound particularly appealing to Parrish. Neither does the idea of returning to his hometown of Montgomery, Ala.

"I am proud to be a southerner. It is a very big part of who I am. But I guess I just

have to do me. I think I was supposed to be born in the south but I'm not supposed to live my days there."

"You can't describe it," said Parrish of southern culture. He arrived at a similar loss for words when attempting to describe the feeling of playing guitar.

"My best performance could have been Brooker two or three weeks ago," he settled on. "It was the Whiskey Collective on a Thursday night. The feeling is you can't do anything wrong but you're not trying to not do anything wrong. Everything works."

Parrish loves writing songs in the common room of his mod. There he is inspired by things people say. Everyday situations gave rise to songs like, "So Should I Take a Shower?"

"That was the song people were singing along to at Brooker," he said. "That was the first time I've seen people singing along to something I've written. That's cool."

GlobeMed sees rise in participation

By David Ullmann

On Saturday Oct. 27, long before most students had awoken, the Great Hall in McCardell Bicentennial Hall bustled with participants of the 2012 GlobeMed Hilltop Global Health Conference.

The three-day event attracted a record number of students and featured an impressive assortment of health professionals, from Dr. Michael Rich of Partners in Health to Dr. Rishi Rattan of Physicians for Haiti. Members of the College's chapter of GlobeMed who hosted the event note that the event highlights many strides the organization has made in promoting world health.

"I don't think that sort of event would have been as successful a few years ago just because there wasn't the base of support from the administration in terms of funding and recognition and from the students," said co-president Hannah Judge '13.

Since the group's inception in September 2009, membership has risen from two to 40.

Beyond the organization's rise in numbers, GlobeMed has cemented itself as an integral part of the community, fostered dialogue and educated students on important topics in global health.

Just a few years ago, Middlebury GlobeMed was an infant organization. A new chapter under the national umbrella, GlobeMed sets up clubs of interested students on campus and partners them with grassroots movements.

The group began its partnership with the Africa-2000 Network, a program in 13 African countries supporting community based projects aimed at environmental protection. It has since then switched its partnership to Gardens for Health Inter-

national, sending interns to Rwanda to support local staff who combat child malnutrition through agriculture.

Changes in the group have enhanced the scopes of its activities substantially. A strong leadership structure, active student base and support from faculty and other organizations are responsible for making GlobeMed one of the campus's most visible organizations.

GlobeMed is made up of the executive board and a base of staff members. While executive board members are given specific roles and have more experience in the group than staff members, the divide is minimal.

"Other chapters have very invested executive boards and leadership but what sets us apart is that staff members are really invested and excited and step up to take on different tasks," explains Judge.

Though leadership is not rigid, the group is still disciplined and focused. Arnaud Nipasumba '16 explains he felt little hesitation about jumping right into the core of the group, involving himself in many important tasks such as organizing an a cappella show.

"I felt it was easy to feel I was in the group ... you get to connect to members easily," said Nipasumba.

The group meets every Sunday, often drawing nearly 50 participants. The meetings split into small groups, which converse about issues relevant to global health. This year, discussions focus on human rights. According to Nipasumba, all members feel compelled to speak, fostering dynamic dialogue.

The Middlebury GlobeMed chapter also considers input from outside the group as well. GlobeMed is connected with various other clubs on campus and has strong relations with many staff mem-

bers.

Executive board member Ellen Halle '13 notes the groups warm relations with the Center for Social Entrepreneurship, who co-sponsored their colloquium for the World Day of Social Justice and an emerging partnership with the pre-health office.

"Through leveraging those relationships it's really helped to get our name out on campus," said Halle. "I think there is more of an awareness that each class you take in a liberal arts education that has anything to do with international development relates to global health."

The new global health minor has added an academic dimension to global health on campus, increasing interest in the subject and organization. Dean of Curriculum and Faculty Development and Director of Natural Sciences Robert Cluss has supported the group in many ways, from offering Epidemiology in winter term to trying to offer the global health course all semesters.

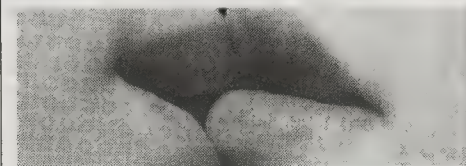
Among the strongest factors in the group's formula for success is the support of students. The organization hosts a variety of creative and well-attended fundraising from GlobeMed-goes-red, to their annual ski race. Their ambitious fundraising targeting 20 thousand seems feasible at this moment.

These advances have made GlobeMed a role-model organization on campus, drawing on the school's resources and the enthusiasm of group members.

Associate Dean of Students for Student Activities and Orientation JJ Boggs cites its inventive fundraising, strong organizational structure and positive message as qualities other organizations should try to emulate.

"I think they've discovered a magic formula," says Boggs.

HOOKING SOBER



BY SHANNON FIEDLER

'Tis the season — the season to hear Mariah Carey crooning her holiday hit "All I Want for Christmas is You." It's a sweet thought, the perfect gooey romantic message since it reminds us what the season is really about: Love.

But let's be honest: no one actually feels that way. In reality it's more like "All I want for Christmas is you ... and that super thoughtful dazzling gift you're going to buy me." So while you'll probably be the favorite thing your significant other unwraps this holiday season, I'm betting they're probably going to want something a little more tangible too.

Getting the right gift can be tricky. How do you know if you guys are serious enough to be doing a gift exchange in the first place? And what do you get? How much is too much? This is getting stressful.

So in the tradition of Mr. Clause who makes his list and checks it twice, here's a few bullet points for nailing that special someone ... I mean, their gift.

1. For someone with whom you have just started hooking up, a token gift is a good choice. No gift at all says you don't care, but if you give something too big, it might scare them off. It's a fine line.

2. Do not buy socks. Ever! No matter how cute or fuzzy they might be. Socks = immediate friend zoning.

3. If you've been dating for a long time and you've done this whole Christmas shtick before, you might feel you've run out of ideas. Think outside the box — literally — a gift that can't be wrapped. It can always be fun to do something totally crazy like an underwater basket-weaving and Thai massage workshop, and the good news is they probably have that on Groupon.

4. No one wants Santa Lingerie. While the red satin boxers with fluffy white trim and Naughty written across the bum might look enticing in the store, no one actually looks sexy wearing them. There is no need to taint the Santa myth by bringing him into the bedroom.

5. Awkward moment: You obliterated your savings on a fantastic one-of-a-kind gift, and you received a \$15 Starbucks gift card. This is slightly heartbreaking and pretty embarrassing situation, and how can you possibly respond? Well every gift deserves a thank you, and this one probably deserves a reminder that your birthday is coming up soon.

6. Awkward moment #2: You got the expensive gift, you gave the gift card. Simple fix: Let them know the rest of their gift is on its way, just a minor shipping delay. Then get home quick and overnight something great from Amazon.

7. Time management folks. You do not want to catch yourself in the mall on Dec. 24 hustling through hectic last-minute buyers. You might get trampled under the feet of the infamously over-eager shoppers. Or worse, you might only be able to get out of their with a pair of socks.

But don't get too stressed. Because while you might be terrified of buying a bad gift (because when someone says "of course I'll love anything you get me!" they're lying), the search for a good gift can be fun. And when you find that perfect something, you'll feel like a million bucks even if you only spent \$19.99.

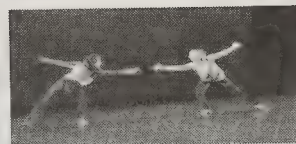
(And a note to those of you who celebrate Hannukah: Since I have no personal experience celebrating the festival of lights, my best advice to you would be to reread this column over eight times and hope for the best!)

Happy holidays to all!

ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

We review the
spectacular Fall Dance
Concert!
Page 17



The Vanek Trilogy asks powerful questions

By Ben Anderson

From Nov. 29 through Dec. 1, *The Vanek Trilogy*, a collection of three, interconnected one-act plays, ran in the Hepburn Zoo. The performance was directed by Paula Bogutyn '13.5, whose direction counted towards 700-level senior work.

The play was written by Vaclav Havel, an influential playwright during the time of the Soviet regime and the first president of the Czech Republic. The three one-acts each have the strength and depth to stand alone as separate pieces but are best enjoyed in the manner put on by Middlebury College's theatre department this past weekend; consecutively, as a single, three-scene piece. One character Vanek, the play's namesake and a playwright recently hired at a brewery (played by Adam Milano '15) is featured in all three scenes. Noah Berman '13 and Isabel Shill '12.5, who both received 500-level junior work credit for the production, played the other characters in the piece, changing between scene.

Milano's performance proved his strength as a rising actor within the College's theatre department. While the other characters throughout the piece seemed to dance chaotically about, anxious to earn Vanek's approval—or lure him into something sinister—Vanek remained largely silent, offering short words and strong insight. Milano did a beautiful job of highlighting his character's paradoxical passive activism. In the final scene, as the audience put together the final pieces of the play's backstory and after two scenes of Vanek's apparent inactivity, he presents an already-written protest just as quickly as fellow-writer Stankova suggests it.

In all regards, the acting on stage was incredibly strong. While the second scene did, at times, feel a bit over-acted (and in a lot of ways, that may have been the point), I was impressed with both Berman and Shill's ability to switch between such drastically different characters. In the first scene, Berman portrayed the drunken foreman of the brewery, practically begging

Vanek for his approval. The audience could pity his character as well as criticize his attentions, ever attentive of his oft-repeated phrase, "Vanek, don't be depressed." And in the second scene, while the attempt to project his own insecurities onto Vanek

was a bit off-putting. In the first scene, we see Vanek speaking with the foreman of the brewery where he has been recently hired. The audience is thrown into the middle of this conversation, with references to the goings-on of the world without any real

the highlight of the play's directing. Not only did the dialogue of the characters hint at Vanek's story, but it also highlighted what was happening in the world and how he fit into it all. Bogutyn did a fantastic job at using subtle hints in the characters' actions that showed us so much more of the world. As the stage-hands changed the props on stage between scenes, brief actions on the part of characters revealed more about the characters. Between the first and second scene, Shill's character followed the stage-hands frantically, making sure everything was pristine and in the right place, a strong hint at the hectic caricature to come.

And before the third scene, anonymous men in suits placed bugs throughout the room, the first explicit hint at the tyrannical regime against which Vanek and his contemporaries were quietly fighting.

Another unique feature of the production with which I struggled was the use of repetition, especially in the first two scenes. At times, the repetition was an incredibly strong enhancement to the piece, emphasizing points and offering a common thread that ran between the first two scenes which otherwise, seemed a bit disjointed until it was all brought together in the third scene.

However, by the end of each scene, especially the second, the repetition moved from a matter of artistic design to feeling like the actors and author were simply trying to sledgehammer the message into the minds of the audience. Sometimes subtlety can be a play's best friend.

With a minimally designed set that hinted at Vanek's secrets while leaving a lot to the imagination, artful acting on part of the whole cast and some wonderful decisions by the director, *The Vanek Trilogy* proved to be a phenomenal production. Shifting wildly from humor (though I must admit, the rest of the audience seemed to find the jokes much funnier than I did) to powerful dialogue of emotion and depth, *The Vanek Trilogy* is theater I won't soon forget. Depressed, it certainly was not.



GREG WOOLSTON

Michael, Noah Berman '13, and Vera, Isabel Shill '12.5 show Vanek, Adam Milano '15 one of the more eccentric pieces in their collection of antiques.

remained the same, the overall demeanor of Berman's character shifted drastically, running about the stage frantically, from couch to fireplace back to couch over to Vanek back to the fireplace.

The play's slow process of revealing the backstories of the characters at first

explanation. I struggled as I watched, trying to put together Vanek's story while still paying attention to what was happening on stage. However, as the production continued more and more was revealed, both explicitly and implicitly.

This slow reveal of the backstory was



GREG WOOLSTON

Vanek (Milano '15) pours another unwanted beer into the glass of his briefly absent foreman, Vanek (Milano '15) discusses plans of protest with Stankova (Isabel Shill '12.5)

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Sight and Sound II Screening

An exhibition the Fall 2012 Sight and Sound II and 3D Animation classes' final projects. Featuring many genres of film, the exhibition will celebrate the end of a semester. Come check out the hard work of these 10 student filmmakers and animators!

12/6, 7:30 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

Guitar Performance

For his senior work, Jeremy Williams '12.5 merges classical tones with folk form and instrumentation in a contemporary songwriting experience. For this performance, he will play a selection of original compositions interspersed with songs by modern folk artists.

12/7, 7:00 P.M., CONCERT HALL

Vocal Recital

Members of the Applied Music Faculties Carol Christensen, Susanne Peck and Beth Thompson cap off a semester of vocal study with an evening of beautiful songs and arias with musical accompaniment. The concert is free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Department of Music.

12/8, 8 P.M., CONCERT HALL

Fall dance performance stuns audience

By Melissa Williams

Spectators were treated to an entertaining blend of diversity, innovation, and beauty on the opening night of this year's Fall Dance Concert, "Mosaics from the Underground." Directed by Visiting Assistant Professor of Dance Catherine Cabeen, the performance presented the collaborative choreography of 11 individual dancers that explored a range of personal interests and social issues through body movement. An eclectic selection of contemporary, classical and popular music styles along with a lighting design that enhanced the dancer's body lines and presence accompanied the performance, appealing to the visual and auditory senses, making for an outstanding demonstration of the choreographers' skill and dedication to the art.

The performance kicked off with a piece entitled "Moon Country", choreographed by Doug LeCours '15, which drew upon modernistic literature as a source for inspiration. Upbeat, electronic music contrasted with subtle lighting and simple costume design, adding emphasis to the uncalculated yet elegant movements of the dancers.



Dancers extend their arms toward one another in the Fall Dance Concert, which explored a variety of personal and social issues through individual body movement.

Next followed Otto Pierce's '13.5 "Brutal Perfection and Other Plays On..." which brought the fashion runway onto the stage. With an eerie musical combination of dubstep and sounds by composer Helmut Lachenmann mixed by the choreographer himself, the dancers began by emulating a runway walk, ever so often stopping to adjust the other dancer's body position.

"Burst," choreographed by Annie Powers '15, changed the pace of the show by including a classical number by Gustav Mahler which added to the work's seamless synergy and the graceful movement of the two dancers.

Senior Lecturer in Dance Penny Campbell choreographed one of the evening's highlights: the Newcomers' Piece entitled "The Secrets Life of Starbursts," performed by four newcomers to the dance company. While I believe that nervousness made their initial moves a bit uncertain, as the dance progressed, the girls gained confidence, ending on a spectacular note.

"This is What I Look Like From the Front," choreographed by Addie Cleveland '13.5 in collaboration with the dancers, introduced the usage of props. While standing upon a pedestal, Cleveland enacted the

role of a "puppet master," dictating movements and animating the dancers.

In Amy Donahue's '13.5 "Deleted Scenes," blinking lights and elegant costume design, accompanied by frightening sounds from *Psycho*, *A Suite for Strings*, made for a feeling reminiscent of a horror film. Numerous scenes, shown in quick succession, were performed in a manner similar to the clips of a movie.

"Oppenheim Reflex" was choreographed and performed by Hannah Pierce '13. It was the only solo performance of the night, and was accompanied by a song that was written, recorded and performed by Richard Chen '13. The music served as a powerful backdrop for the emotionally charged performance.

Next, the pace picked up again with a selection entitled "fem" choreographed by Davis Anderson '13. Through the upbeat and courageous sounds of Masters at Work, the dancers began by expressing femininity through a series of poses. As the dance progressed, however, two of the dancers fitted one of the dancers into a corset, alluding to the perceived expectations of how a woman should be.

In Sarae Snyder's '15 "Through Vertical," a dance that drew its initial inspiration from surrealism, the audience's attention was first drawn to the monotonous movement of two dancers, marching in opposite directions as if to create a rectangle. As the pace of the music increased, the dancers broke away from their uniform movement, their movements becoming more frantic but creating an unexpectedly beautiful harmony between both dancers.

Jessica Lee's '13 "Maps of Home" conveyed the sounds and emotions of nature through a compilation of nature sounds that Lee arranged herself. The soft lighting and simple costume design only served to enhance the scenery, adding to the performance as the trio of dancers reflected the feeling of being surrounded by nature.

While one may expect the performance would die down towards the end,



Two dancers face back-to-back in an evocative piece from the dance concert.

the dancers did not disappoint with a highly charged number entitled "GTG: Thanks for Listening," choreographed by Cameron McKinney '14. Through the usage of a projector, McKinney captivated the visual and auditory senses, ending the entire performance on a high note.

To me, Friday night's performance confirmed the enigmatic quality of modern dance. It was hard to keep my eyes off of each dancer, and while I sought to find meaning in each movement, title, song selection or lighting effect, I often found myself at a loss for words. Nevertheless, one thing was sure: even though each performance's theme may not be blatantly obvious, by the end of the performance, each and every one of them had gotten their point across.

As one would expect, by impressing the audience with their outstanding performance, the Department of Dance received a rightfully earned standing ovation.

SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT: BYERS' NANOWIRES

By Will Henriques

Scale is one of the miracles of modern technology. The earliest computers took up entire rooms and had less computing power than the smart phones we now carry around in our pockets. But is this as good as we can get?

There are those who say no, it's not. We can go smaller, faster, and more efficient. What if you could build a nanocircuit made out of molecular wires with only handful of atoms in each molecular component of the wire?

The technology is a long way off, but Phillip Battell/Sarah Stewart Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Jeff Byers and his thesis students Travis Stoll '13 and Peter Hetzler '14 are laying the groundwork.

Byers hasn't always been thinking about nanowires. In fact, it's an area he's only recently moved into.

"A lot of the work that I did for about my first 25 years fell into the category of making small molecules — small molecules being things on the order of a dozen carbons, molecules that are used to make drugs or pesticides or for commercial purposes," said Byers. "My work was driven more towards understanding processes rather than creating final products."

In the early 2000's, a chemist by the name of Robert H. Grubbs developed a specific type of catalyst that could polymerize (turn into a chain) the type of monomer (single-unit) molecule that Byers works with.

With the discovery of this catalyst, Byers began to think about potential applications for polymers made of his molecules. And he realized that the molecules that he had been working with — a class of

carbon molecules containing chromium atoms — could potentially be used in nanowire construction.

"Nick Jansen '05 was a thesis student of mine, and he was working on a project making some molecules for my old studies," said Byers. "These molecules he was making were being used to test some of my mechanistic theories. But looking at them

alyst approach to things, might be valuable as precursors for making polymeric materials because, frankly, some molecules very similar to what I was working with were precursors to polymeric materials."

Think of the catalyst as the factory worker who assembles strands of Christmas tree lights. Byers thinks that his light bulbs, when assembled with this new cata-



Phillip Battell/Sarah Stewart Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Jeff Byers stands in front of a device known as a hood. Byers works with a class of carbon molecules containing chromium atoms, and has two thesis students, Travis Stoll '13 and Peter Hetzler '14.

in a different light, I realized that molecules like that might be valuable building blocks for very different kinds of target-based synthesis, rather than process-based chemistry. What I realized is that some of the molecules that I was working with, with some slight changes and with some understanding of the mastery of this Grubbs cat-

lyst, will make a nice strand of Christmas tree lights that will also have potential applications.

The Byers molecules are easily excited by visible light, which suggests they will make good conductors of electricity in polymer form.

They're also relatively stable — some

of them have been sitting around the lab for 10 years and have hardly changed. Both of these characteristics suggest that, in theory, the Byers molecules will be good candidates for molecular wires.

Hetzler and Stoll are playing around with two different versions of the Byers monomers to determine whether or not this theory will play out in reality.

"[Stoll] and I are essentially doing the same thing. I'm just working on making different light bulbs, with a different molecular formula," said Hetzler.

"Ideally, I'd like to have a polymer made for my thesis project," said Stoll. "If it works, someone else will have to pick up where I left off and find a way to analyze its conductivity. It's a long-term project that will in all likelihood run through several thesis projects, but such is the nature of research."

But that doesn't deter Byers.

"At the beginning of my career I took an area in organic synthesis, and now I'm one of the 30-40 people who took an area of modest importance and brought it to maturity — radicals in organic synthesis," Byers said. "People know that's what that guy at Middlebury does with a handful of undergraduates. People use some of the stuff I do. They completely ignore some of the other stuff I've done. But now I've been there and done that. I read the literature, and what I'm seeing now is that [my old work has] gotten to the stage where, largely due to the work of many of my good friends and to a minor degree me, a lot of the kinds of stuff that I wanted to prove in the 80's and 90's is now routine. Or as routine as its going to get. I could be routine for another 10 years. I don't want to be. Coming into lab is still fun. I want to keep it that way."

ONE LIFE LEFT THE TOP FIVE GAMES OF 2012

BY SANTIAGO AZPURUA-BORRAS

5. Gravity Rush

The Playstation Vita (PSV) is Sony's newest handheld and the successor to the Playstation Portable. It is an incredibly powerful piece of hardware that gives a very close simulation to home console-quality games on the go. However, the PSV has started out somewhat weak due to an expensive price tag and even pricier proprietary memory cards. But luckily it has not been held back by a lack of quality games. *Gravity Rush* is one of those games. *Gravity Rush* tells the story of Kat, a girl in a strange city in the sky who discovers she has the super power of controlling her personal field of gravity (and anything else close to her). This is directly tied into the gameplay as the player can change the direction of Kat's gravity with a few simple button presses. With her powers, Kat can fly, walk on walls, walk upside down and even pick things up to throw them at enemies. Along the way Kat meets various other citizens that help her out on her quest to discovering who she is as well as the mysterious creatures that seem to be attacking her fair city. Kat also partakes in other random challenges scattered throughout the game.

Gravity Rush's biggest strength is Kat herself. She is a female protagonist, and while she has some questionable outfit choices (besides her super-heroine outfit, you have some awkward choices such as a school uniform, a maid uniform and a slick secret agent suit), she's a legitimately kind-hearted individual who only wishes to do good and feels the pain of those she tries to protect when collateral damage becomes an issue. However, I feel that sometimes she is almost too nice, almost to a fault, and is often manipulated because of it. With a great plot, fun characters and great gameplay, it's a shame that *Gravity Rush* can only be enjoyed by those who shelled the hard-earned cash for the PSV.

4. Mass Effect 3

The conclusion to BioWare's trilogy of space role-playing games finally comes to a close in the third installment. Every major decision you have made since *Mass Effect 1* will have some sort of repercussion in the third game. The Reapers, a Lovecraftian army of sentient robots based on eliminating all organic life have made it to Earth. As Commander Shepard, your last mission is to collect allies from all across the galaxy to push the Reapers back once and for all. *Mass Effect 3* gives you a significantly smaller squad than the other games, consisting of characters both old and new. Everyone you knew and loved (assuming they are still alive in your playthrough) make at least one important cameo and significantly facilitate things. The strange thing about this game is that it is nearly flawless, as the

story is littered with heart wrenching plot developments and fascinating interactions between all the side characters, something that has always been the *Mass Effect* series' greatest strength, in my opinion. In this third game you will mostly be fighting the various forms of the Reapers, as they harvest corpses of other species and rework them to their own needs — basically, space zombies with powers and/or guns. But you will also be facing your allies from the second game, Cerberus, the human-interest group bent on exerting humans' rule over every other species. *Mass Effect's* third person combat was tight but as soon as things got close, things got incredibly awkward if you weren't playing a combat-specific class such as the soldier or vanguard. *Mass Effect 3's* other biggest fault was its ending, as the Reaper's motivations are explained and a final decision is presented in front of you. One can't help to shake that following this seven year trilogy was, in the end, really all for nothing. It just created a feeling of emptiness inside. But despite that, *Mass Effect 3* is an authentic gaming experience with an incredible cast of diverse and interesting characters who go through some tangible growth. Long after the game is finished, one will never forget the likes of Tali, Mordin, Wrex and any other of Shepard's lovable bunch.

3. Borderlands 2

Borderlands 2 is the sequel to the first game, *Borderlands*. While the first game introduced a lot of novel ideas, such as a role-playing style of character progression, stat-based weapon and shield systems, as well as scaling enemies in what was essentially a twitch shooter, the game was often boring, and offered very little in terms of plot and replay-ability. *Borderlands 2* is on this list because the sequel directly addressed every single one of the complaints of the first game and remedies them in an incredible way. *Borderlands 2* introduces a fascinating new villain, Handsome Jack. While sly and treacherous on the outside, Handsome Jack slowly reveals himself to be an understanding, almost tragic character. As you play the game, Jack will often come over your radio to mock you and generally undermine your attempts at surviving Pandora's plethora of horrible things waiting to kill you. Bandits, pirates, soldiers, robots and animals of all sorts are just waiting to take you down. But luckily, you don't have to go alone. The multiplayer of *Borderlands 2* has significantly improved as the game runs much more smoothly thanks to a much more stable netcode. Its RPG elements remained in tact as *Borderlands 2* introduces five new classes of characters, each with three unique branches. While that doesn't sound like much on paper, there really are differences in the character builds. My friend and I were both playing the Siren, but he had built his in a way that was much more support-oriented — he

would often be healing everyone else while usually providing cover fire. My character was built to inflict the various types of status ailments that exist in the game. While I was busy lighting enemies on fire (or acid, or electricity), my friend was keeping tabs on our health making sure none of us would die suddenly.

The game is made for some great fun with plenty of interesting and challenging side quests to take up once the story is over. The only major problem I see with *Borderlands 2* was the time it was released, with *Halo 4* and the new *Call of Duty* releasing shortly after, I'm afraid it didn't have much of a lifespan. Speaking of *Halo*...

2. Halo 4

Yet another first person shooter makes the list. The only game on this list that I chose not based on plot or characters; *Halo 4* is fun, and perfectly encapsulates that primal urge to just shoot things. Lots of doubts were had during the time that *Halo 4* was developed because newcomers 343 Studios were taking the helm of Bungie's legendary franchise, and they nailed it. *Halo 4* throws you back in the seat of Master Chief, doing something or other. The only thing that really stood out to me in the campaign were the new enemies, the Forerunners, who were an incredible breath of fresh air. After six or so games it was boring to just see the same mix-and-match stylings of just a few enemy types.

The game's true strength lies in its easy-to-learn, difficult-to-master multiplayer. The large variation of maps, game modes and cosmetic customization options always keep the game fresh. It's also one of those rare modern games that has also included split-screen multiplayer as well as online, so everyone has some method of actually playing the game. While I was at first hesitant as the multiplayer followed the *Call of Duty* model of receiving item drops after a certain number of kills, it strangely works better than *Halo's* old model of having a specific set of weapons in specific places on specific maps. It keeps the game more random, and in many ways, much more dangerous. *Halo 4* is a game that my Xbox will be chewing on for a very long time and easily the best value for your money in terms of replay-ability on this list.

1. Virtue's Last Reward

Virtue's Last Reward (VLR) is a direct sequel to the Nintendo DS game *9 Hours 9 Persons 9 Doors (999)*. When it was first released, 999 was my favorite game of 2010, and it continues to be one of my favorite games of all time. When I heard that it had sold well enough to consider bringing the sequel overseas, I was quite excited. But after all the twists and turns the first game brought about, including a final plot twist that would make M Night Shyamalan blush, how was there anyway

that *VLR* could surpass it? But as it turns out, my expectations were passed yet again. *VLR* places you in the role of Sigma, a college student who is abducted from the local library on Christmas and wakes up to find himself in a room with a mysterious white-haired girl named Phi. Just like in the last game, you and eight other strangers are forced to play the Nonary game, but this one is focused in the idea of the "prisoner's dilemma." The game consists of two major portions: novel and escape. The novel sections are just that — novels. These are the sections that move the plot along. There's a lot of text and reading, so if words are not your thing, stay away. When you're not reading, you will be presented with the escape rooms: rooms filled with puzzles with the end goal to find the key and escape the room. Just like the last game these puzzles range from "fun" to "oh God, what?" levels of difficulty. But there's nothing quite like the feeling of satisfaction when you open that final safe on your own without the use of any guides or help. Another thing about this game is that there are 24 different endings. You don't have to start from the beginning every time, since there's a handy flow chart in the game that allows you to jump to any section of the game that you want. You can also skip over text you've already seen, and the skip function is designed in such a way that it will not let you accidentally skip text you have not seen yet. Genius!

The various characters you meet are all fascinating and delightful to talk to, such as the interestingly-dressed secret agent Alice, the armor-wielding amnesiac K and the circus leader Dio. The character that steals the show, in my opinion, is Zero Jr., an AI who takes the shape of a rabbit and often taunts you and the other participants of the Nonary game. While playing 999 is not necessary to enjoy *VLR*, you will be missing out on a lot of important plot details that had a major impact on me, only because I had the context of the previous game to guide my judgment of what was going on. Kurt Vonnegut, theories of quantum physics, math and astronomy are just an example of the various topics the game presents within its story. This is something that will keep you gripped until the very end. I know I've lost some sleep over it. The only disappointment is that the game leaves you with yet another cliff hanger, but that can only mean one thing: the third installment is imminent.

VLR, with its fascinating plot, great twists and truly devious puzzles is a game that further shows games as a medium of story telling. When I finished the game I had to lie down for a bit to just take in everything that had just happened. Any game that can give me that kind of emotional response is something special in my book, and I highly recommend that, if you can, you give the game a chance. *Virtue's Last Reward* is my game of the year.

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College athletic trainers available only to varsity athletes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

satisfactorily responded to the baseline tests or worsens during his or her time on the sideline, the player is immediately pulled from the game and cannot return.

"If we even sniff a concussion we remove [the athlete]," Peluso said. "If you come off [the field] and say 'I feel foggy, I can't remember the last play,' [then] you're done [playing]."

Peluso is aware that a policy with strict in-game protocols may lead athletes who are wary of being pulled from competition to hesitate to report their symptoms.

"The concern is that [these precautions] might lead to underreporting," he said. "Someone might not want to report symptoms, and I think that's going to be a fine line that we're going to need to continue to manage."

Bob Ritter, head coach of the football team, shared a similar sentiment, but thus far believes that the system in place has not dissuaded members of his team from discussing their injuries.

"One of the things I was initially concerned about was that we would get an underreporting of concussions, and we haven't seen that," he said. "Guys are pretty careful about talking to trainers when they're having symptoms."

Return to Play Process

After receiving a concussion student-athletes must complete a 10-step process before they are cleared to return to athletic competition. Before that can be accomplished, however, the immediate objective — once symptoms have subsided — is to gradually re-acclimate the individual to the classroom.

"Forget the playing field — we don't even worry about that initially," Peluso said. "[The focus] is getting [the student] back to class. It's their ability to function in the classroom that tends to be the most impaired."

In the immediate aftermath of a concussion the individual is observed every four to six hours throughout the day and night by a friend or family member who is asked to monitor symptoms and take the necessary steps if conditions deteriorate. Until symptoms dissipate, the patient is advised to rest his or her brain as completely as possible, thereby avoiding reading, doing class work and limiting use of phones, computers and televisions.

Only when the effects of the concussion have abated entirely is the student-athlete advised to return to class. Here the process is gradual as well. First the student is asked to attend all of his or her classes and to attentively listen, but not to participate. If the student is able to do this without issue, he or she can then begin to participate and begin to work on out of class assignments. Finally, if all prior steps have been successfully completed with no recurring symptoms, the student can return to a full academic schedule in and out of class.

Having satisfied the academic requirements, the student-athlete must still return to baseline neurocognitive function — determined by the IMPACT test — before he or she can begin the process of returning to athletic competition. This begins with an aerobic test to examine how the individual's brain will respond to elevation in both heart rate and blood pressure. If the athlete does not experience a relapse in the 24 hours following light cardiovascular activity he or she can commence with sport-specific movement. If the individual remains asymptomatic he or she can proceed to non-contact training and weightlifting. This step would permit a wide receiver on the football team to begin individual route running and pass catching. In order to return to full-contact practice, however, he would need to be cleared for full-contact practice by a team physician. This penultimate step allows coaches to assess the athlete's progress and test his or her game-readiness. Should the individual progress to this point without issue, he or she is finally considered ready for complete participation.

The length of time necessary for a student-athlete to return to the classroom and, subsequently, competitive play after

suffering a concussion varies considerably and depends on a number of different factors. Significant factors include the severity of the injury, the number of concussions previously suffered by the individual and whether he or she has a learning disability, to name a few. Typically post-concussion symptoms last two to eight weeks. If after that time the student-athlete continues to experience problems he or she is referred to a neurocognitive specialist. For some athletes who have experienced numerous concussions in the past, the potential risks of continuing playing their sport outweigh the benefits. In some instances the athletes have made the decision on their own, in others Peluso has made the recommendation himself.

"When there have been multiple concussions, return to play may be delayed and in some cases result in a recommendation that the athlete stop playing that sport," Peluso said. "It is not a pleasant conversation to have with an athlete, but I have had it on several occasions over the past 13 years."

One such student who felt the risk of sustaining further concussions outweighed the reward of playing is Will Peckham '14, a former wide receiver on the football team. Peckham suffered a concussion during a preseason practice before the start of his sophomore year. While the immediate symptoms of his concussion were mild, it was his third concussion in just over a year and fourth overall, which delayed his recovery.

"The symptoms from [my fourth concussion] lasted longer than any of my [previous] ones," said Peckham.

After three weeks of rest he attempted to go through the process of returning to the field for the second time, but stopped when his symptoms returned. Though Peckham was never advised to stop playing football, he decided, given his history with concussions, that stopping was the right thing to do.

"It was a personal decision," he said. "The marginal benefit of continuing to play wasn't as great as it used to be."

Concussions Speak

While student-athletes who suffer concussions at Middlebury have received great medical support, it can be more difficult to discuss your injury with other athletes who have had concussions. Emma Kitchen '14.5, a former member of the alpine ski team, sustained a severe head injury, complicated further by significant, sustained post-concussion symptoms when she was involved in a two-bike collision on campus two years ago. In addition to the critical, immediate aftermath of the accident — Kitchen was transported to an Intensive Care Unit in Burlington — she faced a long, grueling recovery process away from school with little medical advice other than to rest and an uncertain time frame for her recovery.

"I found that the general experience I had with all of my doctors — and I became obsessed with seeing doctors, I saw 15 or 20 doctors — [was that] no one had any answers," said Kitchen. "No one knew how long it would be, no one knew what the best [way to] recover was."

Without any sense of when she could expect to make a full recovery and return to school, Kitchen grew increasingly upset.

"It was a really big frustration that I didn't have anyone to tell me about how their experience was because people were so quiet about it," she said.

She finally spoke with a friend who had suffered a number of severe concussions, but had decided to continue skiing despite the significant risk it posed. Hearing his story reassured Kitchen in her own recovery process and ultimately created the idea for Concussions Speak, an online forum where athletes who have suffered concussions can share their stories and receive support.

After missing J-Term and all of the 2011 spring semester, Kitchen returned to Middlebury the following fall. On the advice of her neurosurgeon she decided to end her collegiate career as a downhill skier, deciding instead to play for the women's golf team. Kitchen also applied to MiddCORE, which she saw as

a great opportunity to start her initiative, Concussions Speak. Kitchen was awarded MiddCORE's "Next Big Idea" award for her work with MiddCORE during winter term, which included a feature in *Middlebury Magazine*.

"[It] was incredible," she said. "I was able to get so many more contacts and really raise awareness much more so than with any other vehicle."

Kitchen has since then partnered with two other Middlebury students, Kait Surdoval '12 and Sierra Sittes '14, each of who have had multiple concussions with years of post-concussion symptoms.

The group's mission is to "create a support network and open community for any athlete who has suffered a concussion."

At this point Kitchen is in contact with approximately 50 people who have suffered concussions or have family or friends who have had concussions. She has found that the two groups of people most likely to reach out to her are parents and high school juniors and seniors.

"A lot of [our] contacts are in their last year's of high school and trying to figure out how to cope with a concussion and get into university," Kitchen said. "It's an extremely stressful time for a lot of kids and having a concussion added on to that is terrible."

Going forward, Kitchen believes that in addition to conducting interviews and providing a forum for people who have suffered concussions, the best way for Concussions Speak to spread its message is through public speaking. She is currently planning a panel discussion for the spring on concussions in athletics, which would involve numerous experts in the field.

"The head of the Brain Injury Association of the United States is coming to Middlebury in March," she explained. "He's here mostly for neurobiology majors, but I want him to speak to athletes and bring in Dr. Peluso and have one of my doctors from home on Skype [all participate]."

SGA Athletic Trainers Bill

While varsity athletes, and particularly those who compete in contact sports, face a higher risk of suffering concussions, students who participate in club sports — with the exception of crew and rugby — are not covered by the sports medicine department and therefore do not have access to athletic trainers or the trainer's room. Less than a month ago, however, the Student Government Association (SGA) passed a bill recommending the College create weekly hours when non-varsity athletes can meet with experts in sports medicine and receive treatment for their injuries.

"[A number of different club sports and organizations] were very interested in this bill," said senior SGA Senator Nathan Arnosti '13 who sponsored the bill.

In particular, the women's water polo team, which sustained four concussions as a team last year, is calling on the College to provide more money for greater funding in sports medicine.

"Often, because we don't have access to the medical trainers and because concussions are difficult to notice right away, our players don't realize for at least a day that they have a concussion," said captain Olivia Noble '13. "What happened with all of the four girls last year was that they woke up the next morning and realized they had difficulty focusing their eyes and had bad headaches, at which point they went to the health center. These weren't minor incidences, but because there is no protocol in place, they weren't recognized."

The captain of the men's water polo team, Peter DiPrinzio '13, believes that without regular access to athletic trainers, members of his team could risk developing chronic injuries.

"It is very important that we have access to athletic trainers during some set weekly hours to look at chronic and sports-related injuries," he said. "Without this access, players risk receiving improper or no care for concussions and long-term injuries. Research shows this can have lasting consequences."

While water polo players may be at less risk than other athletes, Noble does

not believe this should restrict them from having access to trainers.

"Water polo players typically suffer fewer acute and chronic injuries than other sports such as rugby, but we feel we are equally justified in ensuring our own personal safety," she said.

The College currently employs five athletic trainers to cover the 31 varsity sports teams on campus. While he is not responsible for decisions on hiring athletic trainers or their assignments, Director of Athletics Erin Quinn does not believe that the current group can take on additional responsibilities.

"Our athletic trainers are giving all the coverage they can and couldn't do more than what they're doing," he said. "I know that based on how hard they're working and what they're doing."

Arnosti, who understands that the current group of athletic trainers cannot assume greater responsibility, thinks that there are other potential solutions to the issue that would meet the demands of the interested groups.

"It's going to be an uphill battle," he admitted. "Hiring a new trainer outright is probably out of the question. I've brought up the possibility of doing a partnership with Porter — hiring a trainer from Porter on an hourly basis for two to four hours a week. A third option that we're looking into is paying [to] train a nurse or another staff member from Parton [Health Center] to be more aware of athletic injuries, including concussions."

The Next Steps

While Middlebury has a strong foundation in place to treat varsity athletes who suffer concussions, Quinn and Peluso believe that the College would benefit from a higher degree of coordination between the athletics department, sports medicine and the faculty and staff.

"The next step in concussion management at the College ... is [to create a joint effort to raise awareness and coordination around the issue]," Quinn said, citing the NESCAC symposium and residential life meetings as two areas where greater discussion about concussions and how they are treated within the foundation of the College can occur.

In February, Peluso and the MASC will meet to discuss how the NESCAC can improve its coverage of concussions. Peluso cited three main areas of improvement: defining concussions, how to treat them and ensuring that both athletes and non-athletes receive greater academic accommodation when experiencing post-concussion symptoms.

"In my experience, one of the biggest problems I see are students that feel pressured to get back to the class early — athlete or non-athlete," Peluso said. "Teachers by and large are pretty understanding at Middlebury. There are a few that maybe don't get it, but it's the students who feel pressure to get back into the classroom that don't do as well."

Peter Kim, the head coach of the women's soccer team, believes that while concussions receive a lot of reactionary coverage, more work can be done to prevent them from happening.

"We try to take as many steps as we can to eliminate the risk of injury and I think we've done a pretty good job of that by adding components to our strength and conditioning program," Kim said. "We'll do the same thing for concussions. It's safe to say that we can do a better job improving neck strength. From what I understand concussions oftentimes come from the whiplash rather than the impact itself. If we can give [players] stronger necks to eliminate that — that's our next step."

Finally, the College continues to receive recommendations and input from students and student organizations ranging from Kitchen and Concussions Speak to Arnosti and the SGA and a host of club sports. While Middlebury has been cited by many as "ahead of the curve" in diagnosing and treating concussions, in order to stay ahead it will need to continue to improve and expand its coverage, taking heed not only of the recommendations of its administration, but also of the student body.

PANTHER PROFILE

Interviews with Middlebury's Student Athletes

By Christine Schozer

1

What are your goals for this season?

I want to play with a level of consistency where [my teammates] know exactly what they are going to get out of their goaltender. I think that's a huge part of having a successful season. As a team, I hope we improve every day. Rather than focusing on the outcome, I hope we focus on the journey and the steps we take every day trying to get better. [This will help us] grow as a team and from that will come the success that you see on paper.

2

What was your first memory of the sport?

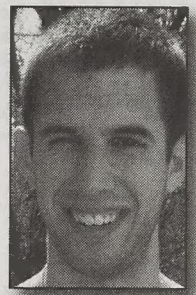
In kindergarten we had show-and-tell and my buddy brought in a picture from a Rochester Americans game, a NHL affiliate with the Buffalo Sabers, and he was talking about the game. I remember storming home that night telling my parents that I needed to play hockey and to sign me up right away. They had no idea where I was coming from; neither of my parents played hockey and no one in my family has really played hockey. They actually made me start off at a learn-to-skate program for a year because they we're not going to spend all this money and time unless I actually liked skating. I hated that, but I guess it worked out for the best.

3

What is your most recent stand out memory?

The PrimeLink tournament was tough playing in because some teams like Plattsburgh and Norwich have played eight games and we'd only played two games, plus they've been skating a month before us because of NESCAC rules. We usually use that tournament as a yardstick to see where we need to improve and where we match up with two better teams. Beating Plattsburgh and having a close game with Norwich let us know that we can really play with anyone as long as we play our best. At least during the Plattsburgh game, we definitely played a full sixty minutes and it was nice to beat them. I don't think we've beaten them in a few years.

Nick BonDurant '14 (Rochester, N.Y.), goalie of the Middlebury men's ice hockey team, is an economics major and an American studies minor. BonDurant began playing goalie at eight years old at the Might level. He found himself in the goal because in his first game he grabbed all the pads before the other kids. He attended McQuaid Jesuit High School, where he played goalie from eighth to 10th grade, before he transferred to Choate to play for another three years. He helped win the state championship for McQuaid in eighth grade, two state championships in youth hockey and the New England Large School championship while at Choate. This season, BonDurant has started every game and has helped the panthers to a current 3-1-2 record.



4

What has been a pivotal moment in your career so far?

When I played travel hockey in eighth grade at McQuaid, the [starting] goalie was a sophomore, but was leaving to play Juniors. The team had no goalie other than me. I was [young] and really shouldn't have been playing. But [they] needed [me] and I really started to step my game up. I started working hard at the sport and [realized] it wasn't just about me, it was about the team. I feel like that season I made a lot of personal steps that helped me realize I needed to make goals that were necessary for me to achieve what I wanted rather than simply going through the motions. I always have fun when I play, but... I wanted to get better everyday.

5

How has life as an athlete helped you as a student?

I have definitely gained time management skills. [I've learned to manage schoolwork with] spending a good chunk of the day at the rink in season, dryland out of season and getting a good night's sleep. Another [skill I've acquired is] having strong interpersonal relationships. You realize while playing a sport you need to be clear, concise and efficient with how you are talking to people on the ice and off the ice. When you are working on a group project and there is someone that doesn't really have those skills, or they are a hassle to work with, you realize, "I could have been that person if sports hadn't taught me that communication is so essential and how to efficiently get things done." [This is equally relevant] in the real world with networking. It is definitely helpful understanding that everyone needs to be contributing to achieve a goal. You can't just pick that skill up from thin air.

6

Why do you love the sport?

When I play hockey, I can completely forget everything that's going on in the world around me or whatever problems I'm having. You can just go out [on the ice], let go, do your thing and have a ball. Even though I don't get to hit people or score goals, I think it's a better feeling to rob someone of a goal or make a good save in practice. [As well, I love] being around everyone on the team. I'm an only child so I don't have brothers to mess around with. Guys on my teams have always been my best friends. Even growing up I didn't hang out with kids from school, I would hang out with kids on my hockey team. It's like a second family or a [band of brothers], so I definitely love that about it too.

Kizel, Lynch lead Panthers by upstart Johnson and Wales

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

look like one of the team's most improved players as he has returned for his junior season with a considerably more polished offensive game.

"James has devoted a lot of time in the offseason to developing that part of his game and it makes him a tough matchup to guard because he's got quickness and dribbling ability to go by defenders," Brown said. "If he can hit that 15- to 17-foot jumpshot it does provide a new dimension with him on the floor."

Twice in the first half Middlebury opened up substantial leads and seemed poised to run away with the game. The visitors scored eight of the game's first nine points to open up a seven-point lead just 3:26 into the game and took their largest lead of the first half with 5:07 remaining when Thompson and Kizel made threes on consecutive possessions. Both times, however, Johnson and Wales rallied to take the lead, as guard Quarry Greenway scored 11 of his team-high 17 points in the first half. The hosts led for just over a minute in the first half — once at the 12:53 mark when forward Esaie Touze made a pair of free throws to complete a 12-4 Wild Cat run and again just before the buzzer sounded at the end of the half as Frank Robinson laid the ball in for two of his 14 points off the bench to give his team a 40-39 lead at the break. The hosts held their largest lead of the game — 49-43 — shortly after the break, which capped a 24-10 run that began with 5:07 left to play in the first half.

Middlebury responded, however, as Kizel came away with three key steals in a six-minute span on one end and Merryman provided some much needed scoring on the other. Lynch scored 16 of his 22 points in the second half as he had considerable room to work down low with Merryman, Kizel and Thompson spreading the floor.

"We had a couple huge threes and you can't double down when Kizel, Merryman

and Thompson [are on the floor]," Lynch said. "When Merryman [was] in the game it was a four out one in situation and I did have a lot of one-on-one situations [with a shorter defender guarding me]."

"Peter has a great knack [for scoring]," Brown said. "He can use both hands on the interior and he's got some quickness when he receives the ball in the post and a true scorer's mentality. I've been really pleased with what he's done both on the offensive and defensive ends. He's really been a force inside for us."

Lynch played 35 minutes in the game, his career high.

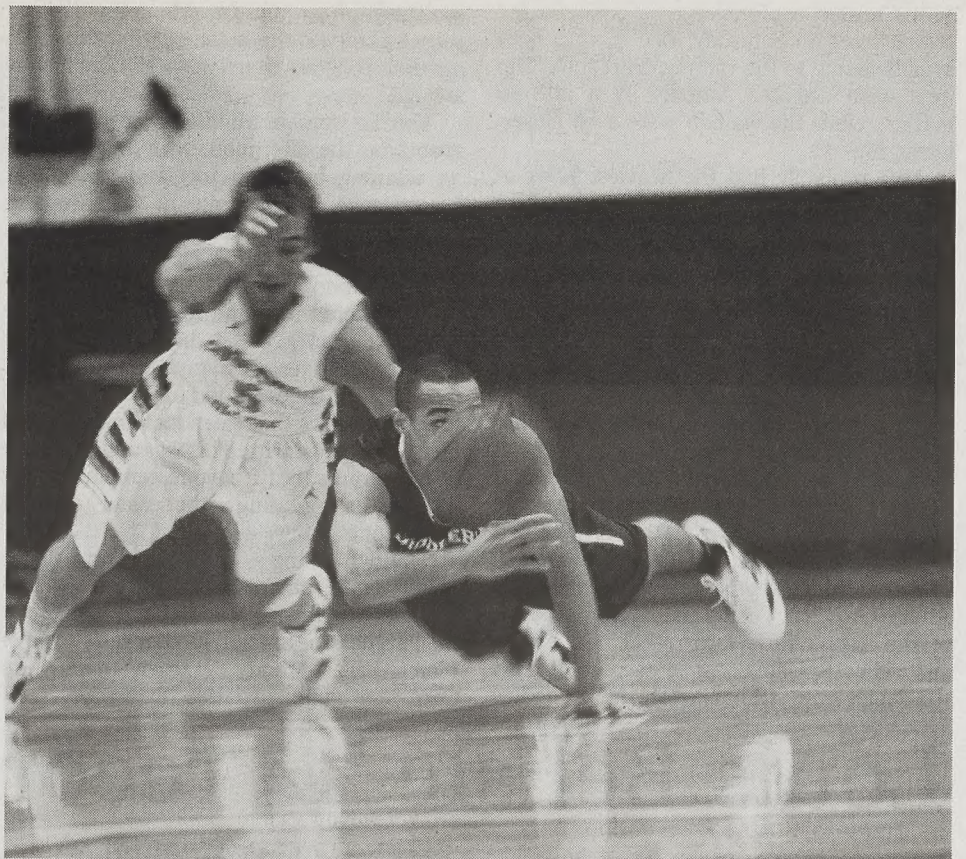
"Towards the end even though I was tired I still felt like I could push through it — that it was worth it," Lynch said. "I don't know if I expect to see 35 minutes every NESCAC game, but in big games like that I can't say I don't like seeing [those minutes]. I love being in the game at the end of the game and being able to contribute."

While the Panthers had balanced scoring with 39 points in the first half and 40 in the second, the team went through significant dry spells, making just two field goals over a 5:06 span to end the first half as well as other, less pronounced droughts.

"We just have to keep our minds set on being aggressive," said Kizel. "We definitely need to improve on our consistency. If we have a lead, we don't stop going — we just have to keep pushing."

On the other end, Johnson and Wales received balanced scoring as all five starters scored seven or more points with four different players, including Robinson, reaching the double-digit mark.

Middlebury hosts Johnson State (3-4) and Skidmore (5-1) this week on Dec. 6 and Dec. 8, respectively. The Panthers played a tight game against Skidmore last year, but have not lost to the Thoroughbreds since the 2005-2006 season — the last time Middlebury had a losing season.



Senior captain Nolan Thompson '13 reached double digit scoring for the fifth time in six games this season in Middlebury's 79-71 win over Johnson and Wales Sunday Dec. 2.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

MEN'S HOCKEY vs. Tufts 4-0 W

Belisle comes through with career-making game play to give the Panthers a win.

MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Johnson and Wales 79-71 W

Third-ranked Panthers survived the test and remain undefeated.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Norwich 72-44 W

The Panthers recover with a solid win over the Cadets.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Trinity 4-1 W

Women finish the weekend strong with a decisive win.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING vs. Amherst 162-132 L

At the heels of a dominating Amherst, the women proved competitive.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING

TEAM

DeSutter's discernments

- 1 MEN'S HOCKEY**
Killed it at home, although "Tiny Bubbles" enthusiasm was weak. Step it up, fans.
- 2 MEN'S BASKETBALL**
Doubt this team will ever slip below top three in our rankings ... they just keep winning.
- 3 MEN'S SQUASH**
Forget the Naval Academy — we'll take a NESCAC win.
- 4 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**
Scores were closer than expected in Boston on Saturday.
- 5 WOMEN'S HOCKEY**
Teased Trinity with a tie, then smacked them down with a win. Keep it going, girls.
- 6 MEN'S RUGBY**
Great effort in the 7s ... hope you enjoyed the Texas BBQ.
- 7 SWIMMING AND DIVING**
Keep your heads above water... with nine practices per week, we'd be drowning, too.
- 8 INDOOR TRACK**
Looking to those XC national champs to lead the team.

Women's basketball falls on the road, wins on home court

By Alex Morris

The women's basketball team conceded another away loss, falling to Emmanuel 62-50 on Saturday, Dec. 1, but recovered at home on Tuesday, Dec. 4 with a decisive 72-44 victory over Norwich to improve to 3-4 on the season.

The Panthers controlled the game in its early stages before Saints player Fiona O'Dwyer tied the score at 7-7 with a three-pointer. She followed up with a jumper to give Emmanuel its first lead, before Katie Pett '14 hit a shot from the wing to bring the score back to 9-9.

After a free throw from Laura Benvenuto to make it 10-9, the Saints never trailed for the rest of the game. After building up a lead of 22-10, Middlebury responded with a 13-2 run to make it a one-point game at 24-23 with just three minutes left in the half.

Emmanuel opened the second half with a 6-0 run to increase their lead to 36-25 after a layup by Liz Daley.

While the Saints managed to keep a double-digit lead for most of the half, the Panthers managed to pull it back to six after a Pett layup with just 12 minutes remaining. However, Emmanuel responded quickly to pull their lead back up to double-figures at 49-39, holding on for the eventual win of 62-50.

"We should come away from this game with the confidence that we can not only stick with but also potentially beat a very good team," said co-captain Kate Logan '13. "By focusing on our game plan and forcing Emmanuel to play a style that they were not comfortable with, we very much challenged a strong team that is ranked 16th nationally."

Tracy Borsinger '13 led the Panthers with

13 points while Pett claimed 10 rebounds and a pair of steals.

Coach Noreen Pecsok is looking to prepare her team for the final push before winter break.

"Much of our time will be spent in preparation for our opponents," said Pecsok. "We hope to play well and head into the break with a few wins and some positive momentum."

Middlebury looked to bounce back with their first home game against Norwich on Tuesday Dec. 4.

The Panthers started off strong as they quickly opened up a 9-0 lead including a jumper on the buzzer from Borsinger and a three from Laura Lowry '14.

After vowing to work on tightening up their defense, Middlebury looked strong and tight in the back court, forcing travels and air balls from Norwich. The Panthers dominated the boards in the first half, looking to quickly running the floor.

Nora Kelly '15 made an instant impact off the bench, finding Kristina Conroy '14 off a backdoor cut, before sinking a three pointer moments later.

Norwich made a run at the end of the half to pull back some points, after a three-point play from Norwich's Katrina Laidlaw. Scarlett Kirk '14 finished off the scoring with 37 seconds with a layup bringing the score to 40-19.

Middlebury picked up where they left off in the second half with a 12-0 run, easily opening Norwich on the counter, converting many fast-break points. The Cadets introduced a press, but were unable break down the Panthers.

Pett and Kirk were both strong from the



Tracy Borsinger '13 shoots over a defender in the team's 72-44 win over Norwich.

line, and two free-throws from Pett brought the score to 62-37 with 8:28 remaining. The Panthers also had particular success on the baseline with jumpers from Borsinger and Kirk.

Kirk led her team with 21 points and 10 rebounds while Borsinger recorded 15 and 10. Middlebury faces Johnson State at home on Thursday, Dec. 6.

Men's, women's swimming and diving fall to Amherst

By Fritz Parker

The Middlebury swimming and diving teams hosted conference rival Amherst for a dual meet on Saturday, Dec. 1, with both squads falling to the visiting Lord Jeffs. The men were defeated soundly by a 208-86 margin, while the women were a bit closer, losing 162-132.

"We probably had the heaviest week of training that I've given this group since I've been here," said head coach Bob Rueppel. "If you watched the meet itself, we were right in every race. I was very pleased."

On the men's side, Middlebury got a big boost from a pair of first-year swimmers, with Carter Pribis '16 winning the 100-meter backstroke and Stephan Koenigsberger '16 capturing the 200-meter breaststroke. Ian Mackay '14 finished second in both the 50m free and 100m butterfly, while Andy Rosenthal '16 (1000-meter free) and Harry Anixter '13 (200-meter backstroke) also recorded second-place finishes. The 200-meter medley relay of Pribis, Koenigsberger, Mackay and Ethan Litman '13 came within two seconds of the team's time from NESCACs a year ago, while finishing just .2 seconds behind the squad from Amherst. "The guys' medley

is coming together, and with two first years on it, which is exciting," said Rueppel. "To see the younger guys be able to handle that responsibility is the most exciting thing. To see their progress from two weeks ago to now is huge."

For the women, Middlebury captured six events on the afternoon, with Jamie Hillas '15 winning both the 100 and 200-meter breaststroke. Hillas' time in the 100 was faster than she swam at last year's NESCACs, in which she won the event en route to All-NESCAC honors.

"I expected my time to be a little faster than last week's, but I didn't think that I would come that close to my best time or beat my NESCAC times," said Hillas. "I have only had a few races that I can look back on and be truly satisfied with. This was definitely one of those races, but I have to remember that it's only the beginning of the season and I still have a lot of things to work on."

Hannah King '13 (one and three-meter diving) and Maddie Pierce '16 (200 backstroke) also won individual events for the Panthers, as the 200 medley relay team of Pierce, Hillas, Maddy Berkman '15 and Ann Carpenter '15 finished first.

"I'm extremely excited," said Rueppel. "It's only going to help the entire group to realize that just because we're tired, just because we're training at a high level, that doesn't mean we aren't able to swim fast. We had a lot of kids this weekend who had breakthroughs."

Overall, the women swam significantly closer with Amherst than they did a year ago, when a 46-point loss was their only one of the dual-meet season. "I think our team now knows that we have a really good chance of beating Amherst at NESCACs," said Hillas. "They have some great swimmers and really great depth, but we proved this weekend that we can be just as fast. It's crazy to think how fast we'll be when our juniors from abroad come back."

The team heads on the road this weekend for a meet at Springfield on Saturday, Dec. 8. After their training trip in Florida over the winter break, the Panthers return in January to face the bulk of their season.

"The key is this week to keep our focus as best we can on training," said Rueppel. "This weekend with Springfield, they're a good non-conference opponent. Close that out well and we'll be pretty satisfied with the first section."



Women's swimming and diving fell by 30 points to Amherst. The men lost by 122.

Louis Belisle '14 records six points vs. Tufts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Belisle at 10:32. Dobrowski ended the day with two goals, scoring late in the third as well. Belisle then recorded his hat trick at 12:50 on an end-to-end rush, before scoring his fourth of the game just minutes later at 13:45.

Belisle's goal pushed the Panthers lead to 7-0. With an assist on Chris Steele's '13 goal with 53 seconds left in the third period, Belisle then tied the modern era (since 1965) record for points in a game with his sixth. He might have broken this record too, as he ripped a shot off the crossbar mid-way through the third period.

The junior defenseman said he was happy that his strong play benefited the team.

"It really was a team effort, and I was fortunate to find myself in scoring position at the end of great plays made by my teammates," said Belisle. "My line

mates and I had great chemistry in the game and connected some nice passes, we used our speed to get by the other team's defense and we took advantage of our scoring opportunities."

The game against Tufts finished at 9-2, with seven Panther players recording at least two points.

Assistant coach Jamie McKenna commented on the team's performance.

"A lot of the guys had strong games for us against Tufts. And I think that's what you'll see from this team going forward," said McKenna. "We have a lot of players that can contribute offensively on any given night and that's what is going to really help us this year. When all the players are focused and tuned in, you'll see nights like the one against Tufts. When they aren't, you'll see games like the one against Connecticut College."

BonDurant recorded 11 saves and allowed one goal for the Panthers, and was substituted for sophomore Michael

Peters '15 late in the game. Peters was strong in his debut, letting up one goal on eight shots in the frame.

The big story of the weekend, however, was Belisle's historic performance.

"What we've found with Lou is that coming out of the back the way he does he can find open ice and attack people with speed. As a forward, he didn't have as many chances to attack open ice with the puck," said Beane. "As I'm looking at it as a coach, it's kind of a head scratcher in that I'm wondering why I didn't do it before. He'll probably stay in the back, both because he can generate offense and he can break the puck out of the zone. He is a very tough guy to forcheck."

Belisle reflected on his achievement. "It's definitely a great feeling, so many great players and successful teams have represented Middlebury over the years, and being part of this really is something that I will remember for a long time," said Belisle. "It's not something that you think

about when you play, I learned after the game that I had tied the records. It feels amazing, and I am happy to contribute offensively to the team's success."

Beane was also impressed with Dobrowski's two-goal game.

"Dobrowski had the first two goals of his career, and it was nice to see him do well," said Beane. He's put in a lot of work to be ready for this year. He was a guy that only played in two or three games last season, so his performance is a good story of perseverance."

The Panthers get set to take on Hamilton this Friday night, Dec. 7, before a date with reigning NESCAC champion Amherst on Saturday at 4 p.m. When asked if Amherst was particularly important given the loss to them in NESCAC last season, the answer was definitive.

"I will tell you when Saturday comes around, our guys will be ready to play and there will be extra incentive, no question about it," said Beane.

Women's hockey beats, ties Trinity on the road

By Mary Claire Eccelsine

The Middlebury women's ice hockey team began the month of December with a win and a tie on Saturday, Dec. 2 and Sunday, Dec. 3 against Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. The first game on Saturday ended in a 1-1 tie after both teams failed to convert in overtime. The next day, however, the Panthers rebounded with a 4-1 win. After the weekend, the team holds a 4-1-1 record with one more game remaining before Christmas break.

The first match-up against Trinity ended in a tie, even though Middlebury outshot Trinity 45-21.

Middlebury held a 1-0 lead throughout the entire game after Molly Downey '13 scored with 3:42 left in the first period.

Trinity, however, came back to tie the game with 12:14 left in the third period and Middlebury, unfortunately, couldn't get one of its 21 shots in for a goal to end the game in regulation time.

After five minutes of scoreless overtime, the game concluded in a tie.

During the game Middlebury was penalized four times for a total of eight minutes on the penalty kill, while Trinity drew six penalties, giving up 12 minutes of power-play time for the Panthers.

Emily Fluke '15 and Hannah Bielawski '15 assisted Downey's goal in the first period. Annabelle Jones '15 had a successful game with a total of 20 saves: nine in the first period, six in the second, three in the third and two in overtime, with only the one goal against.

The game on Sunday against the Bantams concluded much more favorably for the Panthers. The 4-1 loss was Trinity's first of the season, forcing them to a 2-1-2 record overall and a 1-1-2 record in the NESCAC. The Bantams failed to score on multiple opportunities despite the fact that they outshot Middlebury 35-28.

The Panthers set the tone for the game from the moment they stepped on the ice, with MacKenzie Martin '15 scoring a goal in the first 1:15 of the game. Also in the first period, Katie Mandigo '16 scored her first career goal on a power play at the 8:44 mark. Bielawski then scored her fifth goal of the year at 13:19. At the 15:00 mark in the second period, Downey added one more point to the board, making the score 4-0 until Trinity tapped one in at 18:26 to end the second period 4-1.

The last 20 minutes of the game in the third period remained scoreless.

Assists were awarded to Madeline Joyce '14 for the first goal, Jennifer Krakower '14 and Bielawski for the second, Krakower and Katie Sullivan '15 for the third tally, and Fluke for the final.

Laura Pinsent '14 had an outstanding game in goal, finishing with a total of 34 saves: 12 in the first period, 12 in the second and 10 in the third.

"The difference between Saturday and Sunday's games was capitalizing on chances," said Madison Styrbicki '13. "We outshot Trinity by a lot on Saturday, but couldn't get the puck past their goalie. [Coach Bill Mandigo] shaped

our mentality to believe that Trinity had taken something from us the night before, and we had to prove that we were better than them."

The Panthers are currently ranked fourth in the country, and hold a 3-0-1 record overall in the NESCAC.

The team plays next on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. against Castleton State in the final game of the semester.

After nine consecutive losing seasons, the Spartans enter the contest with a 5-2-1 record and have improved their win total each of the last three seasons. Second-year head coach Bill Bowers has a much-improved team, which has

already matched the win total from four of the last six seasons.

"Over break, it's a chance for the team to relax at home and regroup," said Styrbicki. "While we will continue to work out, being away from the team and on-ice competition ignites a sense of hunger for when we come back late December. We always come back from break with a revived sense of excitement."

The Panthers will return with three games in four days, traveling to Utica in their first competition of the new year before returning home to host Wesleyan Jan. 4 and 5, when the NESCAC schedule begins in earnest.



FILE PHOTO

The women's ice hockey team tied, then beat the Trinity Bantams this weekend in a two-game series in Hartford, Conn. The women's team currently holds a 4-1-1 record.

Squash enjoys strong weekend

By Gabe Weissman

The Middlebury men's squash team continued their early season string of success this past weekend, Nov. 30 to Dec. 2, going 2-1 over three days of matches this past weekend both at home and at Dartmouth. Despite falling 1-8 to the perennial powerhouse United States Naval Academy on Friday evening, the Panther Men quickly recovered and fought hard to win both of their matches versus Bowdoin and Drexel by team scores of 5-4.

In their match against Navy on Friday night, the Panther men garnered their only individual win from Parker Hurst '14 in the number-two spot, who won his match in four games. Despite losing the other eight individual matches, five of them were played to five games,

indicating that the team results could have certainly gone a different way.

On Saturday, the Panther men travelled to Dartmouth where they played in a round robin versus 20th-ranked Bowdoin. Middlebury took the first match versus Bowdoin by a team score of 5-4. They then rallied back at home on Sunday, and taking a match 5-4 against 24th-ranked Drexel in a nail-biting finish that came down to captain Jay Dolan '13 winning his number-one spot match in five games against Drexel's Ibrahim Bakir. Other notable performances in the Drexel match include wins from Robert Galuccio '13 in the number-five spot, and wins from Harrison Croll '15, Will Hanley '15, and Willy Clarke '15 in the seven, eight and nine-spots, respectively.

"We were happy with the two good tight wins over Drexel and Bowdoin," said co-captain Spencer Hurst '13. "Different guys have been stepping up in each match, which is good to see. However, we need to keep working hard over break to assure a successful J-term."

The women's squash team, with a much lighter schedule, won its match by a team score of 7-2 versus Drexel on Sunday. The women won their three, four, five, six, seven, eight and nine-spot matches all in three or four games. Despite losses in, their top two-spot matches, both were finished close, as each was played to four games.

Both teams have a break over the next few weeks until matches start again in early January.

BY THE NUMB3RS

6 Points (four goals, two assists) scored by Louis Belisle '14 vs. Tufts, tying the school record.

Consecutive home wins for Kentucky men's basketball, until Baylor's win on Saturday.

54

19 Consecutive wins by men's basketball in the month of November.

Women's squash team's individual win/loss differential in four matches.

+35

28 Number of points by which the women's basketball team beat Norwich this past Tuesday.

Number of points by which the men's swim team was defeated by Amherst last Saturday.

122

EDITORS' PICKS



DAMON HATHEWAY (83-70, .542)



TOM CLAYTON (27-23, .540)



OWEN TEACH (43-55, .438)

Which team will have the NBA's highest winning percentage through this Sunday's games?

OVER/UNDER: 4 points for Louis Belisle '14 this weekend against Hamilton and Amherst.

How will women's basketball fare against Johnson State and Skidmore this weekend?

Who wins the annual Army/Navy football game this Saturday in Philadelphia?

Who will lead men's basketball in points this Saturday vs. Skidmore?

THE GRIZZLIES

The big-market teams steal the spotlight (see Tom and Owen), but this is the NBA's best team right now.

UNDER

Belisle had a tremendous weekend, but he hadn't scored before that this season. #bewareofsmallsamplesizes

2-0

The women's basketball team is improving game-by-game and moving Scarlett Kirk '14 back into the starting lineup helps.

NAVY

Army hasn't hoisted the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy in ten years. #PetraeusProblems

JOEY KIZEL '14

Kizel takes over in big games and the Panthers may need a vintage performance against the talented Thoroughbreds.

THE KNICKS

They will win four tough games as excitement mounts for the first-ever Barclays Center showdown on Tuesday.

UNDER

The scores should be tighter than last weekend, but Sweet Lou will find some more open ice.

1-1

Capping an up-and-down start to the season.

NAVY

Even though neither team is very good, this is one of the best games of the year. Army really isn't very good though.

PETER LYNCH '13

At 16.8 ppg, he's a safe bet.

THE HEAT

Newly-minted Sportsman of the Year LeBron James is pretty good.

UNDER

Hard to put up a repeat performance like the Tufts game...or is it?

1-1

Seems safe to me.

NAVY

This game's historic tradition makes it worth the watch,

PETER LYNCH '13

I need this one. I am feeling down in the dumps about my 0-5 showing last week.

Men's hockey wins in historic 9-2 rout

By Owen Teach

The Middlebury men's hockey team hosted a pair of NESCAC opponents, Connecticut College and Tufts University, this past weekend, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1. The two-game set started off with mild frustration, as the Panthers surrendered the game-tying goal to Conn. Coll. with 1:35 remaining in the third to settle for a tie. That frustration was erased on Saturday, however, as NESCAC Player-of-the-Week Louis Belisle '14 propelled Middlebury past Tufts in a 9-2 blowout win with a record-tying performance, netting four goals and two assists. The team now sits at 3-1-2, 2-0-2 in the NESCAC, tied for second in the conference.

Head coach Bill Beaney explained his team's mentality heading into the weekend after losing 5-4 to in-state rival Norwich in the heartbreaking final of the PrimeLink tournament on Nov. 24.

"Obviously the week before was a tough loss to Norwich, but we were more concerned with the first home game," said Beaney. "With so many guys playing their first home game, we were worried about nerves and how players would react. At the beginning, we

played good defense but we were tentative. Later, we came on and were in great shape, and got the three goals."

The Panthers started off the game with three good scoring chances in the game's first seven minutes, but it was the Camels who got on the board first at the 10:06 mark. Connecticut then added another tally 3:37 into the second.

Terrence Goguen '16, a first-year defender, finally solved the Camels' keeper off a point shot, with assists from Belisle and Evan Neugold '16, on the power play 12:05 into the second period.

Thomas Freyre '14 then tied the game for Middlebury 3:05 later, again on the power play, this time off a pass from Goguen. Freyre found the net once more 12:28 in the third for the Panthers' third extra-man goal, giving Middlebury the 3-2 lead.

However, just as it happened the previous week, the Panthers fell victim to a late goal. What Beaney called a "seeing-eye" shot eluded Middlebury goalie Nick BonDurant '14, evening the score at 3-3, and that result held through the five-minute overtime.

"It's one of those things that happens in hockey all the time,"

said Beaney. "Part of what makes hockey such a great game is that a team can be outplayed, yet still come out with a tie. Unfortunately, we were probably the team that outplayed them, and I thought we might have deserved better than the tie."

Saturday erased any feelings of disappointment, however, as the Panthers came out flying against Tufts and had the Jumbos on the ropes by the end of the

first frame. Belisle scored his first two goals for the Panthers in the first period, using his speed to blow past Tufts' defenders in the neutral zone and create odd-man chances. Michael Longo '14 also scored his third of the year, as the Panthers outshot Tufts 14-3 in the first.

The second period saw the Jumbos pull first-year keeper Derek Metcalfe in favor of regular starter Brian Philips,

who played in Tufts' 5-3 loss the night before at Williams. Philips fared even worse, though, as he was replaced later in the period in favor of Greg Jenkins, Tufts' third goalie in the game.

Trevor Pollock '13 converted on his first of the year 4:41 from a shot by Goguen. Robbie Dobrowski '15 then scored his first career goal off a feed from

SEE LOUIS, PAGE 22



Nick BonDurant '14 clears the crease during the Panthers' 7-2 win against Tufts on Saturday, December 2. BonDurant has a 3-2-1 record for the Middlebury this season with a .883 save percentage.

Third-ranked Panthers survive scare at Johnson and Wales

By Damon Hatheway

The third-ranked Middlebury men's basketball improved to 6-0 Sunday, Dec. 2 in a 79-71 win over Johnson and Wales (2-4). Co-captain Peter Lynch '13 led the Panthers with 22 points on 15 field goal attempts while pulling down 10 rebounds for his second double-double of the season. Joey Kizel '14, who has been slowed by some nagging injuries early in the season, had 20 points on eight for 15 shooting, while dishing out eight assists and recording five steals on the other end. Middlebury was playing without starting point guard Jake Wolfen '13 who missed the game due to injury. In his absence, Kizel played 37 minutes — a season high.

"[With Wolfen] out, I felt like I had to pick up some of the slack and just play more aggressively," Kizel said. "I've been feeling better physically, so that definitely helped me out from a confidence standpoint. I made a few shots early and I just got going."

"It was great to have [Joey] back in prime form on Sunday, because we really needed him," said head coach Jeff Brown. "He led us with his assists and also his ability to get to the basket and score. [He also] made a lot of huge plays — I believe it was two or three steals on the defensive end where Johnson and Wales had numbers on us and it looked from the bench that they were going to end up with a layup and



Joey Kizel '14 scored a season-high 20 points in Middlebury's 79-71 win over Johnson and Wales Sunday, Dec. 2. The junior guard also had eight assists, four rebounds and five steals in 37 minutes.

he got deflections and won us the ball back. He really came up big during prime time."

Hunter Merryman '15 continued his terrific start to the season, converting five of nine shots, including three crucial threes in the second half, accounting for nine points of a 21-10 run over 8:26 that gave Middlebury a 76-65 lead with 1:32 remaining. Merryman finished the game with 15 points in 25 minutes and appears to have earned the sixth man role. The sophomore swingman is shooting better than 64 percent from beyond the arc this season.

"[Merryman] definitely opens

up the court for us and if he continues to shoot like this it's going to be tough to guard us," Kizel said. "It's easier for me because he's just standing out there and most of the time he's going to make it. He's been playing great, hopefully he'll keep it up."

Co-captain Nolan Thompson '13 was the fourth Panther to reach the double-digit mark, scoring 11 points on 11 shots in 39 minutes of play.

James Jensen '14, meanwhile, scored eight first half points, but managed just one in the second half. He continues to

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Students face health risk from concussions

By Damon Hatheway

While the national media has intensified its focus on the negative impact of concussions in professional sports, the spotlight has largely passed over Division III athletics. Concussions, however, are an issue at all levels of competition — in October the *New York Times* reported that five Pop Warner pee wee football players competing in the 120-pound weight limit group suffered concussions — and affect athletes and non-athletes alike.

Medical Director, College Physician and Team Physician Dr. Mark Peluso said that roughly 10 Middlebury student-athletes reported receiving concussions during the 2011-2012 academic year. He believes, however, that the true number of concussions sustained is higher than the given number.

"I expect this number to increase as awareness about concussion leads to increased reporting of a traditionally under-reported condition," he said.

While other institutions — most notably the National Football League — have come under severe scrutiny either for ignoring the damaging long-term effects of concussions or failing to recognize them, Middlebury understood the severity of concussions at an early stage and has been ahead of the curve with its treatment programs. The College instituted a detailed and comprehensive system of protocols and precautions nearly a decade ago, though awareness of the issue and testing have been an essential element of Middlebury's sports medicine program for considerably longer.

"It's one of the things we were doing really well before it became a hot topic," said Peluso. "We were treating concussions using as much evidence-based or expert-consensus based recommendations years before it became a big issue."

In an effort to standardize the treatment received by student-athletes in the NESCAC, the Presidents of each college created the Medical Aspect in Sports Committee (MASC). Peluso currently serves as the chairman.

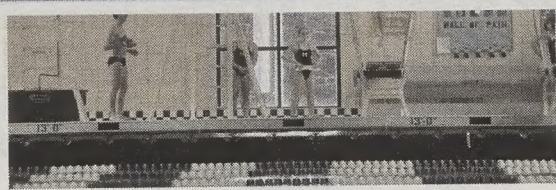
"Based on our preliminary work, we know that all NESCAC schools have the same fundamental approach to concussions," he said. "There are a few subtle process differences that tend to relate more to the staffing or administrative structure of the different schools."

Diagnosing Concussions

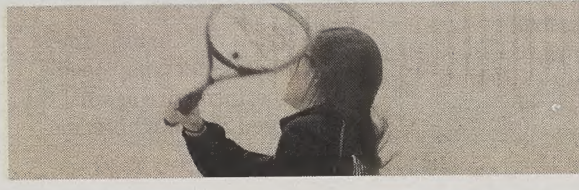
When an athlete is suspected of having sustained a concussion or exhibits concussion-like symptoms during a game, he or she immediately goes through a series of what Peluso describes as rudimentary neurocognitive tests. These include recalling the months of the year backwards and repeating groups of numbers in reverse order to test cognitive ability and memory. If the tests are completed successfully and the athletic trainer is confident that the individual is not exhibiting signs of a concussion, he or she is still held out of play for a period of time before re-entering to ensure that symptoms do not develop or worsen. If the trainer feels that the player in question has not

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